CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING

EMIGRATION FROM CANTON.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1860.

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Correspondence respecting Emigration from Canton.

No. 1.

Sir J. Bowring to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received June 9.)

(Extract.) *Hong Kong, April 15, 1859.*

I HAVE the honour to forward copy of a communication from Mr. Consul Alcock, dated Canton, April 12, with its sundry inclosures.

Inclosure 1 in No. 1.

Consul Alcock to Sir J. Bowring.

(Extract.) *Canton, April 12, 1859.*

THE acts of violence and fraud connected with the coolie trade at this port have lately reached such a pitch of atrocity that a general feeling of alarm spread through the population, accompanied by the degree of excitement and popular indignation which rendered it no longer possible or safe for any authority interested in the peace of the place to remain inactive. The intolerable extent and character of the evil has thus tended to work its own cure. When no man could leave his own house, even in public thoroughfares and open day, without a danger of being hustled, under false pretences of debt or delinquency, and carried off a prisoner in the hands of crimps, to be sold to the purveyors of coolies at so much a head, and carried off to sea, never again to be heard of, the whole population of the city and adjoining districts were roused to a sense of common peril. That under such circumstances the people should attempt to protect themselves by administering a wild justice of their own upon the persons of any of the nefarious gangs of crimps that fell into their hands, was a natural consequence of the supineness of the authorities. And accordingly, within the last ten days, several of the kidnappers have been killed by the mob, and with the vindictive cruelty to which the Cantonese, under less provocation, are well known to be addicted.

Immediately prior to these last acts, I received the inclosed petition of the Chinese mercantile community at Canton, praying for the active intervention of the British authorities to put an end to atrocities in which Chinese subjects were indeed the ostensible agents, but foreigners were the employers, and ships and lorchas, under foreign flags, supplied the means.

I did not hesitate to give the bearer of this petition assurance, coming as the representative of the twenty-three trades petitioning, that I would spare no effort to meet their reasonable prayer. Your Excellency's arrival the following day enabled me to communicate personally with you; and the vigorous measures taken by the Allied Commanders-in-chief, in co-operation with the high Chinese authorities, in communication with yourself, leaves me only the duty of transmitting for record the various documents now inclosed, of which your Excellency has already cognizance.

I have only further to state in conclusion, that Captain Commerel, having been dispatched on the day of your departure hence to search some suspicious vessels at Whampoa, had succeeded in seizing four of the crimps and nine of their victims on board a hulk with no national flag, and a lorcha under Portuguese colours, but with irregular papers. These men, after examination before the Allied Commissioners on the 10th instant, as I am informed, were handed

over to the Portuguese Vice-Consul here; the kidnapped men being by that gentleman released, and the crimps sent to the Chinese authorities.

It is satisfactory to be able to report, in conclusion—reverting to the measures taken for the effective stopping of this nefarious coolie trade (a Slave Trade of the worst description, because the victims are taken from a higher class and a civilized people, and consequently under aggravated and new conditions of hardship)—it is satisfactory, I say, to know that the proclamations of the Chinese authorities, the seizure of some of the vessels and active agents *in flagrante delicto*, and more especially, perhaps, the determination of the Governor of Macao to permit no more vessels to clear out of the harbour of that place with coolies under the present iniquitous system, and to close the barracoons, have already gone far to remove all further danger or cause of complaint. It is only to be hoped, that under no plea or pretext of free labour will anything so monstrous ever be allowed again to outrage the feelings of the people in China, or inflict so grievous a wrong. There can be no respect for foreign flags, and no security to foreigners, while such doings are associated with them in the Chinese mind.

Inclosure 2 in No. 1.

Petition.

(Translation.)

THE duly prepared Petition of the Chinese Mercantile Community at Canton, engaged in business under the following denominations:—

Dealers in foreign goods, cotton hongs, cotton yarn hongs, dealers in cotton fabrics, gold shops, silver shops, rice stores, black tea company, green tea company, Tsing-yuen tea hongs, Kung-e tea hongs, King-e tea hongs, Hee-jin tea hongs, satin ribbon hongs, raw silk hongs, sandal wood hongs, silk piece-goods hongs, "birds' nest" shops, dealers in fish maw, &c., dyers, lead and tin shops, iron ware hongs, rattan dealers, paper hongs, fur shops, wood hongs, new clothes shops, compradores, old cloth shops, tea box makers, matting shops, linguist guilds.

Our object in presenting this Petition is to entreat that you will communicate (with the other Consuls), in order that the system of kidnapping, which is being carried on by craft and violence to the great injury of the good and virtuous, may be examined into and repressed; that the people's existence may thereby be secured and a great evil done away with.

Our Province of Kwang-tung has for more than 200 years had commercial intercourse with your country; both parties have observed good faith, mutual confidence has subsisted, and each and all have enjoyed the advantages accruing. Unexpectedly the Portuguese have recently built several barracoons at Macao, and in conjunction with Chinese merchants, whom they protect and screen, they have hired not only steamers and lorchas, in connection with which they make use of your country's name, but also all kinds of river boats, large and small, all having Portuguese on board, and which anchor at Whampoa, and various other places in all parts of the Canton waters, where numerous stratagems and devices are employed in order to deceive and delude the children of virtuous families, and also the inexperienced country louts. These having been once kidnapped or seized by violence, or, as it is called, "the pigs having been bought," are taken to the large sea-going vessels, where they are bound and confined in the dark hold, and then carried to the "pig guild" at Macao. At the time of examination and numbering, such of the people kidnapped as submit escape ill-usage, while those who refuse to yield are most cruelly treated, perhaps even shot dead; and, on witnesssing such barbarous atrocities, their only resource is to submit under compulsion: for ah! who is there that dreads not death? They are then taken across the sea and sold as slaves, where they suffer such hardships that not one out of 10,000 lives, while at home their parents, wives, and children, hoping to be nourished and supported by them, and having no one else to depend on, lament and mourn both morning and evening, not seeing them return. Cases even occur in which they have carried off and sold the sole existing representative of many preceding generations, the support of a mother preserving a chaste and virtuous widowhood, on whom rested hopes that he would continue the race and transmit a line of descendants, who might continue to offer up incense before

the ancestral shrine. The succession thus irremediably cut off, (the mother) born down by grief puts an end to her existence. Families are scattered and individuals perish. Alas! the kidnapping of an individual entails the extinction of a family, and as the evil has now been some years in existence, the people carried off must number 60,000 or 70,000, so that the number of families ruined may be said to be 60,000 or 70,000. At this point of the statement whose heart is there that is not grieved?

Possibly the Portuguese Consul does not take notice or institute examinations, because he is not fully acquainted with the evil. But the British Consul being right-minded and honest, and cherishing in his bosom benevolence and rectitude, will not, we imagine, sit quiet, and look on doing nothing when informed of such atrocities. Every day by which haste is made to deal with the matter will be the saving of some hundreds, whilst the consequences of a ten days' delay will be the destruction of thousands. We, therefore, make a clear statement of the case, and humbly request that you, the honourable Consul, will communicate with the other foreign Consuls, in order that, with a reverential respect towards High Heaven's love of animate creation, stringent measures may be adopted and the matter examined into and dealt with. If the good people that have been carried away can be brought back again, and this great evil done away with, our gratitude will be unbounded. We accordingly repair to you, the British Consul, and hope that you will grant our request.

Petition presented, Hienfung, 9th year, 3rd moon, 3rd day (6th April, 1859).

Names of some people that have been kidnapped:—

Lo-Akang,	native of	Shuntih,	aged	18,	lost	in February or March.
Leang A-tsuen,	,,	Nan-hai,	,,	19,	,,	27th March.
Leang A-yung,	,,	Nan-hai,	,,	18,	,,	in January.
Fung A-teaou,	,,	Ho-shan,	,,	24,	,,	2nd April,
Loo A-hung,	,,	Sin-hwuy,	,,	17,	,,	8th March.
Chin A-kwang,	,,	Sin-hwuy,	,,	18,	,,	in February.
Ho A-chaou,	,,	Nan-hai,	,,	40,	,,	in February.
Chung A-tsih,	,,	Kaou-yaou,	,,	48,	,,	in February.
Kwan A-fut,	,,	Pwan-yu,	,,	27,	,,	12th March.
Chin Yu-moo,	,,	Shun-tih,	,,	20,	,,	29th February.
Leang A-wei,	,,	Ho-shan,	,,	19,	,,	15th February.

Inclosure 3 in No. 1.

Mr. Parkes to Consul Alcock.

Sir, *Allied Commissioners' Yamun, Canton, April* 9, 1859.

BY direction of his Excellency the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's troops, I have the honour to forward to you copies of three Proclamations which have just been issued by the Allied Commanders and the Chinese authorities for the purpose of suppressing kidnapping, and also of authorizing the voluntary emigration of Chinese from this province to foreign countries.

The first of these objects, it will readily be seen, concerns very materially the peace and order of this city and district; whilst the important bearing of the latter, both on native and foreign interests, is well known; and it is to be hoped, therefore, that his Excellency Pih-kwei will gradually be able to give effect to the contemplated arrangements under which it is proposed to facilitate and protect the emigration of Chinese from this port.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HARRY S. PARKES.

Inclosure 4 in No. 1.

Proclamation.

(Translation.)

By Straubenzee, Major-General Commanding Her Britannic Majesty's Troops in China; D'Aboville, Commandant-Supérieur of the French Forces at Canton; and M'Cleverty, Senior British Naval Officer at Canton; for the purpose of strictly interdicting kidnapping, that order may be preserved and the peaceable inhabitants protected.

THERE being in various parts of the world a want of agricultural labour, while China, on the other hand, finds it difficult to support a superabundant population, foreigners have, for some time past, hired labourers in the latter country; and the terms under which they are thus engaged to serve abroad, the rate of remuneration and period of service, &c., are drawn up and recorded in formal contracts, while advances are occasionally made to the families who remain behind. The free consent of both parties must be obtained to these contracts, and in no case may any person be taken away against his will.

It now appears, however, that a number of Chinese have lately been going about the city and suburbs of Canton, deceiving the people by pretending to offer them foreign employment on highly advantageous terms, and, having enticed those who listened to them to some secluded place, or on board of some boat or vessel, they then deprive them of their liberty and carry them away. Sacrificing all other feelings to their own cupidity, these lawless men have in this way caused families to be torn asunder, and have at the same time defeated the wishes of those foreigners who seek to obtain labour on just and equitable terms.

Under these circumstances, the Allied Commanders think it right to proclaim to the people of Canton that they not only hold these iniquitous proceedings in deepest abhorrence, but are also determined to do all in their power to suppress them. They would, therefore, warn the people to observe, in future, the strictest caution whenever applied to by Chinese, in the name of foreigners, to engage themselves for foreign service. No Chinese should think of entering into an engagement of this nature, if it be one of his own countrymen who makes the offer, until he has first satisfied himself of the character of the said agent, and whether he is guaranteed by people of respectable position. *If willing, after* taking these precautions, to accept employment, the emigrant should then see that he makes a contract with the foreigner himself, in which all the conditions as to rate of pay, period of service, &c., should be formally entered and clearly understood. Be careful, therefore, to adopt this course, instead of heedlessly listening to the stories of these designing men, and allowing yourselves to be led away by their misrepresentations, probably even without taking proper precautions against a danger which may result in your being kidnapped and sold into slavery.

The Allied Commanders also inform the people that the allied police have received strict orders to render assistance to any person whom they may see carried off by force, or who, when in company with kidnappers, may suddenly become alive to his danger. Those, therefore, who find themselves thus situated, or those who, under some pretext or other, may be openly seized by kidnappers, should boldly call out for aid, and, if within ear of the allied police, they may rely upon assistance being promptly rendered them. Or, if any injured parties can supply information that may lead to the discovery of the kidnappers, or can themselves seize these and bring them before the Allied Commanders, the latter will do all in their power to examine into their wrongs, and to see that the penalties of the law are duly inflicted. The Allied Commanders at the same time, however, warn the people that their power to aid those who are kidnapped is greatly lessened when once they have been taken afloat, as not only the numerous native craft, but also the vessels of foreign countries, are not under the control of the allies; and in respect, therefore, to all offences committed by such vessels, the appeal should be made to the authorities of the nation to which they belong.

Let all give heed to these injunctions.

A special Proclamation.

Dated April 7, 1859.

Inclosure 5 in No. 1.

Proclamation.

(Translation.)

By Pih-kwei, Governor of the Province of Kwang-tung, &c.; to ordain stringent measures for the apprehension of kidnappers, in order that a grave calamity be removed from among the people.

WHEREVER, in the Province of Kwang-tung, mercantile classes are found mingled with the people, a densely crowded population is the result. Among them may be found those who are compelled by want to search for a living wherever they can obtain it; while others, in order to drive a trade, quit, for a time, their homes and cross the seas, or, accepting the employment offered by foreigners, obtain, by going abroad, a profitable remuneration for their labour. Permission to their doing so should not, it is clear, be withheld in any of these cases, provided the parties themselves really consent to the arrangements; but the Governor has now been informed that, of late, a number of villains are going about, in threes and fives, laying all sorts of plans for kidnapping the people, taking alike the young and strong without distinction. Under pretence of providing them with employment, they put the men whom they thus carry off on board ship, and sell them to other parties, who take them away to foreign lands. The traffic is known by the name of "the sale of pigs." Any length of time may elapse without their returning to their homes; they cannot see their parents, and they are separated from their wives, their children, and their other relations. How deeply distressing is their case!

The villains, on the other hand, who inflict this misery, being intent only on enriching themselves by means of their fraud, and blinded thereby, not only to all fear of the law, but to all sense of right, are affected by no regard for human life. Their designs, whether in point of danger or in degree of wickedness, are worse far than those of the robber or the bandit, and one recoils with horror from the contemplation of their evil doings. If stringent measures be not taken for their punishment and suppression, how are the laws to be upheld, and the peaceable people protected?

The Governor has therefore directed all the civil and military authorities to require their soldiers and police to institute strict and secret search, with a view to the arrest of these offenders. But, in addition to this step, he judges it necessary to make known, by public proclamation, the following injunctions to all classes of the people in the provincial capital (or the province):—

Is not commiseration for the woes of others a universal feeling? Who is there among us who has not a brother, a child, or other near relation? These villains are like beasts, or beasts of prey—any one seizing them would wish to kill them. All of you, with united heart and hand, should search for them in every quarter, and, whether you meet with them lurking in their hiding-places, or openly engaged in practising their violence or fraud, join together at once in arresting and bringing them in custody to the yamuns, where the extreme penalty of the law shall at once be inflicted on them. For the conviction of every kidnapper thus arrested, a reward of 40 dollars shall be paid; or for information that shall lead to the seizure of any one of them 10 dollars shall be awarded. This money lies now in the Treasury, ready to be bestowed upon any one who can claim it, and the promises thus made shall be faithfully kept. The object of the Governor in taking this measure is to remove evil from the people. Look not, therefore, upon these injunctions as a form merely. All those houses which afford concealment to kidnappers shall, in accordance with the laws, be pulled down, and the owners of them shall be dealt with according to the statute for the concealment of great offenders. There are still within the city many houses remaining empty; the owners of these shall put them in charge of people upon whom they can place dependence, instead of carelessly engaging for this purpose persons whom they do not know, as by that means they may find they have hired some of these bad characters, and thus become involved in the consequences of these evil acts.

A special Proclamation.

Dated Hien-fung, 9th year, 3rd month, 7th day (9th April, 1859).

Inclosure 6 in No. 1.

Proclamation.

(Translation.)

Choo, Acting Chief Magistrate of the District of Nan-hai, &c., and Hwang, Chief Magistrate of the District of Pwanyu, &c., proclaim the following orders and stringent prohibitions, in order that a proper value may be set upon the lives of the people, and the dignity of the laws be upheld.

IT has been brought to our knowledge that the city and suburbs are now infested by a class of vagabonds, who, neglecting honest avocations, and seeking only to benefit themselves by injuring their fellow-men, falsely represent to the poor and to the young that foreigners wish to engage their services at a high rate of remuneration, and, under this pretence, they inveigle them away to Macao and other places, where they are sold to other parties, put on board ship, and sent to foreign countries. The common name given to the traffic is that of "the sale of pigs." The people who are thus kidnapped are torn away from their own flesh and blood, and are for ever cut off from their native homes. Cruelty and wickedness such as this cannot be exceeded.

Constituted, as we are by our office, the guardians of the people, we, the Magistrates, are most deeply pained at hearing of these proceedings, and the steps we have taken for detecting and punishing the offenders are already on record. Now, however, we hear further that those engaged in this trade of kidnapping establish themselves either in houses on shore, or in lorchas, and in all sorts of native boats on the river. Such practices should be held up to general execration. Therefore, besides calling upon the military authorities and the police to institute both stringent and secret search, to close up such premises whenever found, and to proceed against the offenders; and besides, also, making such arrangements and regulations as the subject of emigration requires, showing what is allowed and what is prohibited, we furthermore proclaim to all classes of the people the following directions for their information and guidance:—

If, after the date of this Proclamation, foreigners continue to hire the people or engage labourers for service in foreign countries, let all those who are disposed to go be careful to ascertain whether the offers made them are *bonâ fide*, and that they are not exposing themselves to the kidnappers' designs; let them arrive at a distinct understanding as to the rate of remuneration, the period for which they are to be engaged, the place to which they are to proceed, and whether they will be able, when absent, to communicate with or remit money to their families or friends; and let a special contract, containing all these conditions, be then drawn up, which can be recorded in proof of the agreement. When both parties have given their consent to these conditions, there is then no objection to your going with the foreigner; but let all of you be warned against heedlessly listening to the specious stories told by these villains, for he who neglects this caution may fall into their snare, and find himself, without hope of redemption, a slave in a foreign land, where regrets or repentance will prove wholly unavailing.

Let all the kidnappers also see that they work among themselves a thorough reformation, and abandon their previous evil courses. If, however, they still lean to crime, and do not amend their ways, let them know that, the moment they are discovered, or information is laid against them, they shall certainly be seized and carried before our tribunals, when the penalties of the law shall be summarily and severely carried out. However disposed we may be to show mercy to offenders, as Magistrates we shall, in all such cases, give prompt effect to the laws. Let all, therefore, respect and obey, and disregard not the injunctions of this special Proclamation.

Dated Hien-fung, 9th year, 3rd month, 4th day (6th April, 1859).

No. 2.

Sir J. Bowring to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received June 9.)

My Lord, *Hong Kong, April 15, 1859.*

MR. CONSUL ALCOCK has, in a separate despatch dated Canton, the 12th instant, of which, with my reply, I have the honour to forward copy, very

properly referred to the great importance of the concession made by the mandarins in allowing voluntary emigration from the ports of this province. The beneficial influences of such legalization can hardly be estimated, and I shall greatly rejoice if any action or influence of mine have contributed to so important a result.

In discussing the subject of emigration with the various Agents and Directors of coolie shipments for the British Colonies, I have invariably expressed the opinion that no measures of precaution they could take, while such scoundrels as the Chinese crimps and brokers were employed—perhaps necessarily employed—in the collection of emigrants, would ever afford real security against vile abuses and horrible crimes. I know that a long list might be made of the man-stealers who have been murdered by the people or beheaded by the mandarins; but such is the power of money—such the disregard of life in its pursuit among the vagabond Chinese, that nothing but the active co-operation of the mandarins with foreign authorities can check or control the existing evils.

A gentleman who has been living at Swatow (placed, as it has been, beyond Consular jurisdiction) informed me, a day or two ago, that the enormities committed in that neighbourhood in the collection and shipment of coolies exceeded all belief.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN BOWRING.

Inclosure 1 in No. 2.

Consul Alcock to Sir J. Bowring.

(Extract.) *Canton, April* 12, 1859.

REFERRING to the coolie trade at this port, I purposely reserved for a separate communication a few remarks on the important bearing of the proclamations issued by his Excellency Pih-kwei, the Governor of the province, and the subordinate Magistrates.

It will, doubtless, not have escaped your Excellency's observation, that, by these proclamations, a step has been taken on the part of the Chinese high authorities of extreme significance in regard to the free emigration of labourers from China, which has now been legalized. Out of a great evil, therefore, a greater good has come, and an advantage been gained in the interests of all Colonies requiring labour, which, but for these occurrences, might have been sought for in vain. Before the enormity of the evil resulting from the desperate measures of the crimps, stimulated by the combined promise of large profit, and effective protection afforded by their foreign employers under national flags, every difficulty has been borne down, and before the menace of a popular rising the law and the tradition have alike been put aside: a lesson of great value in our future relations with this nation, since it shows that there is no law or custom of the Empire that may not be amended by the free act of the authorities, when an obvious necessity for change in their own interest can be shown to exist.

As the old law forbidding Chinese to leave the country, however obsolete and practically ineffective, was the ostensible cause of a system of obtaining coolies radically vicious, by stamping all engagements with the brand of illegality, so I conceive the legalization of free emigration is calculated not only to strike at the root of the crimping system, by depriving it of all plausible pretext, but to open wide the door for the supply of as much labour as may be required, and under conditions of the most unexceptionable and satisfactory character.

Inclosure 2 in No. 2.

Sir J. Bowring to Consul Alcock.

Sir, *Hong Kong, April* 15, 1859.

I HAVE to acknowledge your despatch dated the 12th instant, in which you very properly point out the benefits which will accrue from the legalization

of voluntary emigration by the Decree of the legal authorities of the province of Kwang-tung. It is, as you say, a permanent good growing out of a gigantic but temporary evil, and I hope will put a stop to the abuses of whose existence and gravity we are all of us but too sensible.

Copy of your despatch will be sent to the Earl of Malmesbury.

This result is, as you remark, the more interesting as showing to what an extent local authority is exercised by the High Mandarins where great public interests are concerned, and that no reference to the Emperor at Pekin is deemed necessary where a particular course of action is required for the maintenance of peace and order.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN BOWRING.

No. 3.

Mr. Bruce to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received July 5.)

(Extract.) *Victoria, Hong Kong, May* 3, 1859.

YOUR Lordship will see, by the inclosed copy of a despatch from Mr. Consul Parkes, that the abuses consequent on the emigration conducted from Macao arrived at such a pitch as to force the Chinese authorities of Canton to grapple with the question; that by the influence and arguments of the Allied Commissioners, the late Governor, Pih-kwei, was induced to deal with the question in a practical spirit, by recognizing the propriety of emigration when properly conducted, instead of attempting to check it by moral axioms quoted from the sacred Classics, and by the reproduction of ancient laws which for centuries have been obsolete. It is a novel and important fact in Chinese administration to see a high officer and his magistrates setting aside a traditional maxim which the circumstances of the population render no longer applicable, admitting, virtually, that laws must be subservient to the exigencies of social change and progress; adopting, in short, the mobility of European in lieu of the rigidity of Chinese statesmanship: and I see in it a strong proof of the beneficial effect produced on Chinese officials by the proceedings of the Allied Commissioners, and by the confidence they have inspired in their justice and good sense.

It is unfortunate that Pih-kwei should have died before a system of emigration was organized; but I do not think that we should on that account abandon the vantage-ground already gained, or assume that his successors will be unwilling to adopt his views. It appears to me also more expedient to confine it to this province, where the population is dense and poor, and emigration to foreign lands congenial to their habits, than to moot the general question with the Imperial Government, and endeavour to introduce it in provinces where the people are not prepared for it.

Inclosure in No. 3.

Mr. Parkes to Mr. Bruce.

(Extract.) *Canton, April* 11, 1859.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency a number of papers having relation to a question which is now attracting great attention here, namely, the kidnapping of Chinese, as carried on by their own countrymen, assisted by Portuguese lorchas.

The earliest representation on the subject was made by the Commissioners to the Allied Commanders in December of last year.

On the 7th March Sir Charles van Straubenzee called the attention of the Commissioners to the subject.

Our proceedings, however, did little to stop the kidnapping traffic, which speedily increased to such an extent as to endanger the peace and order of the city and district. The Chinese were heard on all sides to say, that the river and even the streets were not safe to passers-by; and placards, posted at every corner, described in emphatic language the wrongs, dangers, and sufferings of

the coolie traffic and the iniquities of the native coolie crimps. The fact of these men receiving as much as twenty or thirty dollars, and even, it is said, a higher sum for each so-called coolie that they deliver to the foreign agent, is sufficient in itself to open the door to great abuses. Pih-kwei, seeing the extent to which the practice had been carried, admitted the necessity of more stringent measures to check it being taken on his part; and the consideration of these steps afforded me various opportunities for pointing out to his Excellency that prohibitions alone, in the usual Chinese mode, would not reach the root of the evil, which lay in the circumstance that foreigners, coming to engage labour in China, have no authorized or respectable source to apply to for the men they want; that they are compelled, therefore, to seek the assistance of compradors or brokers at the outports, who, again, employed crimps and men of the lowest class to collect coolies for them. The system of head-money given by the foreigners or the coolie brokers to these crimps naturally introduced the element of fraud into their proceedings; and thus, when the crimps cannot get men to go with them voluntarily, they inveigle them away under false pretences. That all this might be obviated if an establishment were opened for the purpose of facilitating the emigration of those Chinese labourers who were willing to seek in foreign lands the employment which, in the present disordered state of the province, they could not obtain near their own homes, by recording their names and the place to which they had gone, receiving advances for their families, and remitting to them money and letters, &c.

The result of these arguments appears, in some measure, in the proclamations which have just been issued; one by the District Magistrates, one by Pih-kwei himself, and one by the Allied Commanders. These, it will be seen, are not confined to mere denunciations levelled against kidnappers, but in the body of the first, and in the prelude of the second, are clauses expressly telling the people that those who wish to emigrate have full liberty to do so, and advising them as to the manner in which they should proceed in order to escape imposition and risk.

But, in addition to granting the people this liberty, which virtually legalizes Chinese emigration in this part of China, and with the view of giving effect to the idea, publicly stated in the Magistrates' proclamation, of bringing emigration under some sort of regulation, Pih-kwei has verbally expressed himself willing to establish, if possible, arrangements for the protection of emigrants, of the kind I have ventured to suggest to him. He cannot be insensible of the innovation of Chinese law and usage which he is thus sanctioning, but he probably sees that the exigency of the times calls for it, and it is to be hoped that he will be able to persevere in the scheme until it is attended with some good results. The satisfaction with which his proclamations, as well as that of the Allied Commanders, have been received by the people, is some encouragement to him to do so.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HARRY S. PARKES.

No. 4.

Acting Consul Winchester to Mr. Bruce.—(*Received at Foreign Office, August* 27.)

(Extract.) *Canton, June* 30, 1859.

THE only other matter of a general nature which it occurs to me to notice is the continuance of emigration proceedings at Whampoa. Full particulars on this subject will be gathered from the inclosed copy of a communication of the Vice-Consul, which gives an account of the traffic up to a recent date. I ought to mention that I did not think it necessary to interfere in reference to the petitions; for I had been informed by Mr. Consul Perry that he was in the habit of visiting the ship at intervals, with the view of redressing any complaints or grievances requiring investigation.

Inclosure in No. 4.

Vice-Consul Hale to Acting Consul Winchester.

(Extract.) *Whampoa, June* 21, 1859.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that it is reported that the American ship "Swallow" will shortly leave this anchorage; she has 750 coolies on board, and more are expected.

I learn that the system of kidnapping is still carried on here successfully, and I believe the Traffic to be on the increase. A new system appears to have been lately introduced, viz., the employment of Chinese women as confederates. I understand from reliable authority that the following occurrence has taken place at Tai Kong-hue:—A woman, with a child packed on her back, passed two men; she designedly caused the child's bonnet to drop from its head; it was picked up, and brought to the woman; she expressed her sincere thanks, and tendered the two men some drugged cakes for their civility; these were eaten, and shortly afterwards the men were stupefied, and they were obliged to sit down by the road-side; two other men coming up (confederates also), asked what was the matter; the invalids incoherently requested to be carried to their homes, instead of which they were taken on board the receiving-ships. Six men have been intoxicated and kidnapped in this way from the above-named place, and by the same woman using the narcotic cakes.

Yesterday I received five petitions in reference to coolies kidnapped, and who are stated to be on board the American vessel "Swallow." I have directed the applicants to proceed in person to Canton in order that you may have the opportunity of further examination of their grievances.

No. 5.

Acting Consul Winchester to Mr. Bruce.—(Received at Foreign Office, October 16.)

(Extract.) *Canton, August* 22, 1859.

I FORWARD copy of a despatch from Mr. Vice-Consul Hale, relative to the latest catastrophe presented by the coolie trade in this vicinity. Nothing can be more clear than that legitimate commerce, and the safety of the lives and property of those concerned in it, are daily menaced by the continuance of this traffic. If the peace of this city and neighbourhood should be suddenly and without previous warning disturbed, it will be the result of the intolerable iniquities connected with the system.

Inclosure in No. 5.

Vice-Consul Hale to Acting Consul Hance.

Sir, *Whampoa, August* 15, 1859.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your information, that the Portuguese lorcha "Louisa," No. 10, left this anchorage on the 12th instant, bound for Macao, having on board eight-seven coolies from the American ship "Messenger." This lorcha was found ashore midway between this and Macao, with her masts and rigging cut away, all her guns removed, and no one on board. She was towed back by the steamer "Shamrock," and it is supposed that the coolies must have risen and murdered the crew; however, I hear three Portuguese sailors jumped overboard and have found their way to Macao: we shall, therefore, have the particulars through them.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FRED. HOWE HALE.

No. 6.

Mr. Parkes to Mr. Hammond.—(*Received December* 30.)

Allied Commissioners' Yamun, Canton,
Sir, *November* 13, 1859.

BEING aware that Mr. Bruce has authorized Her Majesty's Consuls in the South of China to forward direct to the Foreign Office copies of their despatches on subjects which it may be of importance that Her Majesty's Government should be advised of without delay, I have now the honour to inclose, for the information of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, duplicates of two despatches, with their various inclosures, which I addressed Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary in China on the 10th instant.

In one of these I report that the Allied Commissioners for the government of this city, acting with the approval of the Allied Commanders, had succeeded in establishing at Canton a system of emigration which had the full consent and support of the Chinese authorities; and that although this system is at present only applied to the emigration to the British West Indies, it might be hoped that the example thus furnished of the practicability of regulating Chinese emigration would induce those other foreigners—American, French, Spaniards, and Portuguese—who are now engaging or shipping labourers in China for other foreign Colonies, to conform to the same or similar rules, and thus place a check upon the atrocities which characterize the present irregular mode of conducting the coolie traffic.

In the other despatch I inform Mr. Bruce that certain rigorous measures adopted by Laou, the Governor-General of these provinces, for the suppression of kidnapping, and the sale of Chinese by their fellow-countrymen to meet the demands of the said traffic, had laid bare an array of facts which proved that until Laou had taken these steps, these abominable practices were being carried on at the anchorage of the foreign shipping in this port, to an extent that could scarcely have been believed possible. The Governor-General has consequently addressed both the Allied Commissioners and the foreign Consuls, requesting them to bring the subject to the notice of their respective Governments, in order that they may require all their subjects or citizens engaged in the coolie trade to conduct it in future only under such regulations as the Representatives of the foreign Governments and the local Chinese authorities may decide on, and which, his Excellency points out, should be framed on the basis of those which it is a satisfaction to feel have been first adopted in the emigration now opened from hence to the British West Indies.

It is not necessary that I should trouble you with remarks on the importance of these subjects, even when viewed merely in relation to the safety and well-being of our own interests. I will only point out that the above-mentioned regulations are directed against the employment of crimps in the collection of coolies—men who are paid by the foreigners so much per head for each coolie they bring in, and also against the employment of foreign vessels as depôts for the reception of the coolies, over which, when they do not hoist the flag of a Treaty Power, no effectual control is exercised. The suppression of the crimps can be effected by the Chinese authorities, but the control of the foreigner, who is morally responsible for these inhuman practices to the same extent as the former, rests with the authorities of the nation to whom he belougs.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HARRY S. PARKES.

Inclosure 1 in No. 6.

Mr. Parkes to Mr. Bruce.

Sir, *Canton, November* 10, 1859.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Excellency the establishment at Canton of an Emigration House for the reception of emigrants for the British West Indian Colonies, under the direction of Mr. John Gardiner Austin, specially charged by the British Government to conduct this emigration.

The distinguishing feature of this emigration is, that it has the earnest support and co-operation of the Local Chinese Government, and that the regulations under which it is to be conducted, and the rigorous surveillance of the Allied Authorities to which it is subject, provide the fullest protection for the emigrants, and render all coercion in their engagement or shipment impossible.

The numerous inclosures which I feel bound to forward to your Excellency will enable you to trace step by step the proceedings which have terminated in this important result. The subject was first mooted by Mr. Austin applying to the Allied Commissioners to obtain for him the co-operation of the Chinese authorities in respect to his emigration; his application being founded on the Proclamations which, your Excellency will recollect, were published by the Local Chinese Government at the instance of the Allied Commissioners in the beginning of April last, and which held out the prospect of the Chinese provincial authorities doing all in their power to regulate a traffic which they then, in effect, locally legalised; and which, for want of such regulation, has so long been attended with the grossest abuses.

My letter to Major-General Sir C. T. van Straubenzee of the 1st of November is a brief record of the mode in which the Commissioners took up the matter and conducted it to a conclusion. Having received Mr. Austin's application of the 22nd October, we discussed the question in all its bearings with the Acting Governor-General Laou; and being greatly assisted by the leading gentry, whose sympathies in the cause had also been enlisted, we were enabled to embody the result of our deliberations in five Articles, which, having received the consent of all parties, were forwarded by Mr. Austin through the Commissioners to Laou, in an official form on the 26th of October, as the regulations under which he undertook to conduct his emigration. Laou's acceptance of these regulations, and consequent confirmation of the acts of his predecessor Pih-kwei, was received by the Commissioners on the following day and at once communicated to Mr. Austin; and on the 28th of October Laou issued a Proclamation making known to the people, in terms which commend themselves for point and lucidity, that Mr. Austin's emigration had the fullest sanction of the Local Government.

It now only remained for the Allied Commanders to decide on the character of the license to be given to establishments of this nature, if opened within the limits of their jurisdiction, as well as on the degree of surveillance that the allied authorities should themselves exercise over such emigration. The point was an important one, and required consideration, not only with reference to Mr. Austin's proceedings, but those of other foreigners who might be expected to visit Canton for the same purpose. It is only doing Mr. Austin justice to say, that in all his acts he has hitherto courted the utmost publicity; and in order to insure to his establishment the control as well as the countenance of the allied authorities, he preferred to bring himself within the limits of their jurisdiction, by establishing himself on the city side of the river rather than open his depôt on the Honam Bank, where he would have been comparatively free from all foreign restraint. It is to be hoped that this example may not be without a salutary influence on those who come to Canton to conduct emigration under other flags.

Through the assistance of the gentry suitable premises facing the river were engaged at a moderate rental, for Mr. Austin, in the western suburb, as early as the 31st October, and on that day he applied to the Allied Commanders for their permission to occupy these premises as an Emigration House. The rules under which houses or depôts for the reception of Chinese emigrants anywhere within the allied limits should be conducted were then considered by the Allied Commanders, and their decision, giving cover to a copy of the approved rules, having been communicated to the Allied Commissioners on the 4th November, Mr. Austin received his license on the following day.

On the same date Mr. Austin issued in Canton a public notice, giving the people particulars of the official character of his emigration, and minutely informing them of the conditions under which he was prepared to engage labourers. I have reason to think that this notice has met with a favourable reception, and no pains have been spared to insure it a wide circulation. I beg to inclose a copy in the form in which it is printed in Chinese, and I also add the English version of this statement.

Mr. Austin having also submitted to the Commissioners his own rules for the order of the Emigration House, these were approved by the Commissioners on the 7th instant.

The opening of the emigration-house dates from to-day, when delivery of the premises nominally took place, and they were formally declared to be ready for the reception of emigrants by Mr. Sampson, who is Mr. Austin's local agent, and the Deputy Magistrate who has been appointed to the charge of the Chinese part of the superintendence. It may augur well for the success of the scheme that while this was being done an applicant for emigration came forward and offered his services.

Trusting that the above proceedings of the Commissioners will have your Excellency's approval, I have, &c.

(Signed) HARRY S. PARKES.

Inclosure 2 in No. 6.

Mr. Parkes to Major-General Sir C. T. van Straubenzee.

Allied Commissioners' Yamun, Canton,
Sir, *November* 1, 1859.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that during your absence at Hong Kong, Mr. J. G. Austin applied to the Commissioners, in the inclosed letter, for their support in obtaining from the present Governor of Kwang-tung such confirmation of the acts of his predecessor Pih-kwei, under which Chinese emigration from these parts is locally sanctioned, as should enable him (Mr. Austin) to proceed with the execution of the mission with which he is charged by the British Colonial Government, viz., the obtaining of a supply of labour for the West Indian Colonies.

The deliberations between Mr. Austin and the Commissioners which followed this application, resulted in the adoption, by the former, of a set of five General Regulations, which, being calculated to give the Chinese the fullest protection against the frauds and villanies hitherto practised on them by coolie crimps and kidnappers, we felt we could confidently recommend to the Acting Governor-General. It may be said, indeed, that his Excellency assisted in drawing up these rules, as before submitting them to him in a formal shape, in our letter of the 26th ultimo, we had previously discussed them at several interviews both with his Excellency and certain of the leading gentry, and had ascertained that all the conditions were fully approved by them. His Excellency had, accordingly, no difficulty in signifying to us, on the following day, his concurrence in the said regulations, and his willingness to aid at once in carrying them into effect; and this determination on the part of his Excellency we communicated to Mr. Austin the same day.

Following up the course he had thus sanctioned and promised to support, his Excellency, on the 28th October, sent the Commissioners a draft of the Proclamation designed to make publicly known to the people in Canton and the surrounding district, that an emigration thus regulated had the approval and co-operation of the Chinese Government. The Commissioners returned the draft with a few verbal alterations, and it was issued in the form inclosed the same day.

Since then, through the assistance of the gentry, Mr. Austin has been enabled to secure suitable premises for an Emigration House in the Western Suburbs, just in the rear of the western extremity of the Shameen site; and all that is now wanting to enable him to commence his operations is the license of the Allied Commanders to his opening his establishment, subject to such rules as they may see fit to impose. I therefore beg to inclose copy of Mr. Austin's application for this permission, and shall take an early opportunity of submitting to your Excellency's consideration a draft of the regulations to which, in the opinion of the Commissioners, all parties conducting establishments of this nature within the limits of the allied jurisdiction should be required to strictly conform.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HARRY S. PARKES.

Inclosure 3 in No. 6.

Mr. Austin to Mr. Parkes.

Sir, *Canton, October* 22, 1859.

UNDER the impression that the Proclamation issued by the Allied Commanders in Canton and his Excellency the Governor of Kwang-tung, in the month of April last, had placed the emigration of Chinese on a footing which would justify the British Government in acceding to the wishes of the British West India Colonies for a supply of labourers from China, I made special representations on the subject to the Secretary of State for the Colonies through his Excellency the Honourable Mr. Bruce. To these representations I have now received replies; and, having been authorized by Her Majesty's Government to set on foot an emigration from China to the British West Indies, I have to ask for the support of yourself and the other Commissioners of Canton, more especially as from the change in the Administration of the Chinese Government in the province of Kwang-tung it may be necessary to obtain a confirmation of the views expressed in the Proclamation of the late Governor. As the emigration season has already commenced, and success can only be secured by the assent and co-operation of the Chinese officials, I would beg to urge that no time may be lost by the Commissioners in obtaining from his Excellency the present Governor such confirmations of the views of his predecessor as will enable me to carry out the mission with which I am entrusted.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. GARDINER AUSTIN.

Inclosure 4 in No. 6.

Mr. Austin to Mr. Parkes.

Sir, *Canton, October* 26, 1859.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for the consideration of his Excellency the Governor, the regulations under which I propose to carry on emigration from China to the British West Indies, and trust that his Excellency will see no difficulty in giving his entire concurrence thereto.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. GARDINER AUSTIN.

Inclosure 5 in No. 6.

General Regulations under which it is proposed to conduct the Emigration of Chinese from Canton to the British West Indies.

1. ALL Chinese desiring to emigrate to the British West Indies should make application at the British Emigration House; and if they agree to the conditions offered, and their services are accepted, their names and all particulars relative to themselves and their families will be registered by the British Emigration Agent and an officer appointed by the Chinese Government to superintend the said emigration. They will then have the choice of returning to their own homes until the day appointed by the Emigration Agent for their reappearance at the Emigration House, where they will be fed free of charge until the ship is ready for sea.

2. While living at the Emigration House the emigrants will be at liberty to hold free communication with their families or friends, to visit or be visited by them, or to pass in and out during stated hours. They will, of course, strictly conform to the various rules established by the Emigration Agent for the order, cleanliness, or health of the Emigration House. They will receive forty-eight hours notice of their intended embarkation, which, together with the signing of their contracts, will be conducted in the presence of the Emigration Agent and the Chinese superintending officer, both of whom will previously have inspected the ship, and having satisfied themselves that all the requirements of the law

for the provisioning and the comfort of the emigrants, have been duly complied with.

3. No emigrant, when once embarked, shall be again allowed to land, and no ship shall be allowed, under any pretence whatever, to protract her departure beyond four days after the embarkation of her emigrants.

4. Any person may obtain copies of the regulations and conditions under which British emigration is to be conducted, by application at the British Emigration House, and these shall also be supplied to any emigrant who wishes to send them to his friends. Copies of the same shall also be posted at the entrance to and about the Emigration House. The Chinese Government will also give these regulations and conditions the utmost publicity throughout the surrounding towns, villages, and districts, in order that the people may everywhere be enabled to distinguish between the emigration which is thus conducted, and the fraudulent proceedings of the crimps, which are held in abhorrence by the British Government.

5. The British Emigration Agent will always reside at the Emigration House, and accommodation shall also be there provided for the Chinese superintending officer, if he choose to avail himself of it; or, if the latter should prefer to live elsewhere, he may obtain access to the Emigration House, and see the emigrants, whenever he wishes to do so.

Thus any statement or complaint that an emigrant may at any time wish to make, either to the British Emigration Agent or the Chinese superintending officer, can at once be heard and attended to.

(Signed) J. GARDINER AUSTIN.

Inclosure 6 in No. 6.

The Allied Commissioners to Acting Governor-General Laou.

EARLY in the month of April last, Proclamations were issued by his Excellency the late Governor Pih-kwei, the Allied Commanders, and the District Magistrates of Nan-hai and Pwanyu, warning the people against the fraudulent practices of the coolie-crimps, and at the same time informing them that Chinese wishing to seek a livelihood in foreign lands were at liberty to do so, and that regulations would be established for their guidance and protection.

The Allied Commissioners have now the honour to inform his Excellency the Acting Governor-General, that the British Government, acting upon the aforesaid Proclamations, have authorized Mr. J. G. Austin to set on foot an emigration of labourers from China to the British West Indies, and that gentleman has now applied to the Allied Commissioners to place before the Acting Governor-General the inclosed draft of the General Regulations under which, if they are approved of by your Excellency, he is prepared to conduct the said emigration. The equitable character of the proposed Regulations, and the advantages therein offered to emigrants, recommend them, in the Commissioners' opinion, to his Excellency's consideration, and they trust, therefore, that he will see fit to sanction them, and to authorize his officers to carry them into effect.

The Allied Commissioners take this opportunity of stating to the Acting Governor-General that they may shortly have occasion to apply to his Excellency for the co-operation of the Chinese authorities in regulating Chinese emigration from hence to the French Colonies.

The Allied Commissioners take this opportunity of presenting their wishes for his Excellency's increasing prosperity.

Dated October 26, 1859.

Inclosure 7 in No. 6.

Acting Governor-General Laou to the Allied Commissioners.

(Translation.)

LAOU, decorated with a button of the first rank, Governor of the Province of Kwang-tung, and Acting Governor-General of the Two Kwang, &c., &c., &c.,

addresses the following reply to the Allied Commissioners for the Government of the city of Canton.

The Acting Governor-General has received the communication of the Allied Commissioners, stating that early in the third month of the present year (April 1859), the late Governor Pih-kwei and the Allied Commanders issued proclamations, rigorously interdicting the villanies of the coolie crimps which had led to the kidnapping and the sale of the poor ignorant people, and, at the same time, making it known that those Chinese who of themselves desired to seek employment in foreign lands were at liberty to do so, under regulations that would be established for their guidance and protection. That, acting upon these proclamations, the British Government had authorized Mr. Austin to set on foot an emigration of labourers from China to certain British territories, and that Mr. Austin having submitted a set of five regulations, which are considered by the Allied Commissioners to be just and equitable, the latter recommend them to the notice of the Acting Governor-General, and express the hope that he will see fit to give them his sanction, and to depute the necessary officers to see them carried into effect. The Allied Commissioners add, that they may shortly have occasion to apply for the co-operation of the Chinese authorities in establishing the regulations under which an emigration from hence to the French Colonies may also be conducted.

The Acting Governor-General has considered the contents of the above letter, and, as Mr. Austin's Regulations are just and equitable, he feels free to give them his sanction, and to authorize their being carried into effect. He has, therefore, already issued formal instructions to the Financial and Judicial Commissioners of the Province, who will at once appoint a trustworthy officer to co-operate (with Mr. Austin) in the management of the emigration in the manner proposed.

In making this communication to the Allied Commissioners, the Acting Governor-General presents, &c.

Dated Hien-fung, 9th year, 10th month, 2nd day (27th October, 1859).

Inclosure 8 in No. 6.

Mr. Parkes to Mr. Austin.

Allied Commissioners' Yamun, Canton,
October 27, 1859.

Sir,

IN acknowledgment of your letters of the 22nd and 26th instant, the latter inclosing the General Regulations under which you propose to carry on emigration from China to the British West Indies, I have the satisfaction of informing you that the Allied Commissioners having maturely considered your proposals, and discussed them with his Excellency the Governor of this Province, his Excellency has formally signified to the Commissioners his entire approval of the five Regulations inclosed in your letter of yesterday, and is at once prepared to give you the aid of the Chinese authorities in carrying them into execution.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HARRY S. PARKES.

Inclosure 9 in No. 6.

Proclamation.

(Translation.)

LAOU, decorated with a button of the first rank, Acting Governor-General of the Two Kwang Provinces, Titular Vice-President of the Board of War, Governor of the Province of Kwang-tung, &c., &c., &c., proclaims the following injunctions for the guidance of the people.

Within and without the city of Canton there is a certain class of lawless miscreants who inveigle away, and even kidnap, peaceable people, and secretly sell them for foreign exportation. They are known by the name of the "pig-sellers," and their cruel and unnatural disposition is deserving of the deepest

abhorrence. The records show that they have already been laid under severe interdicts by my predecessor in the government of this province, and that the local authorities are directed to arrest and punish them.

But among the Chinese population some are to be found who, being poor and without the means of obtaining a livelihood themselves, desire to go abroad to seek the means of subsistence. In the case of such people, their emigration is voluntary, and wholly different from that which is conducted by the kidnapper who sells his fellow-man. In order that this villainy may be stopped, and the difference between it and the former made patent to the world, such means of investigation and of inspection should be provided as will plainly denote a distinction.

It has been formally intimated to the Governor by the Allied Commissioners that the British Government have sent an authorized Agent to these Provinces to establish an Emigration House for the reception of emigrants for the British West Indies. To this end, it is proposed that those Chinese who wish to obtain employment in the said Colonies, should go to the Emigration House, and there negotiate for themselves all the conditions of service, as well as their exact destination, and that these conditions, when accepted by both parties, should be recorded in a formal contract, and a joint inquiry be held by the Foreign Agent and the Chinese officer specially deputed for the purpose, in order that the circumstances of each case may be clearly ascertained, and thus all the abuses attendant on kidnapping may be eradicated. The Governor is also requested by the Commissioners to issue a proclamation on the subject.

The Governor has accordingly directed the Financial and Judicial Commissioners of the Province to communicate the establishment of these arrangements to all their respective subordinate authorities, and require them to make the same everywhere known by proclamation, and the said Commissioners will also see that the co-operation of the Chinese officers (with the foreign Emigration Agents) is duly provided for. And, in addition to the above, he also himself proclaims these measures to the poor classes in all places for their information. Let it be known by you all that those who desire of their own will to go abroad and seek employment in foreign lands, should proceed themselves to the Emigration House and there make a clear report, when the Chinese officer and the Emigration Agent will carefully examine the applicants, and thus ascertain whether they are indeed voluntary emigrants, and not victims to the crafty designs of the kidnappers. This having been clearly proved, they may then negotiate together the terms of service and their future destination, and record these in a formal contract.

The necessities of the poor people being thus well consulted in these measures, while at the same time the suppression of kidnappers is equally kept in view, the former should now no longer pay any heed to the arguments of the latter, nor allow themselves to be persuaded into taking service in an underhand manner without going to the Emigration House, or engaging themselves in the manner herein directed. For should they still allow themselves to be misled, they will find, when it is too late, that they have been betrayed, kidnapped, and sold. And as to the kidnappers, they indeed, of all men, should now relinquish their former evil courses, for if they persist in committing such wickedness, they shall, whenever discovered, be punished with the utmost severity of the law, and not the least clemency shall be shown them.

Let none dare to oppose the injunctions of this special Proclamation.

Hien-fung, 9th year, 10th month, 3rd day (October 28, 1859).

Inclosure 10 in No. 6.

Mr. Austin to Mr. Parkes.

Sir, *Honan, October* 31, 1859.

HAVING ascertained that premises suitable to the accommodation of emigrants can be obtained adjacent to the westernmost Shameen Fort, I have now to make application to the Commissioners for a license to occupy the same as

the "Emigration House of the British Government," subject to such regulations as the Allied Commanders-in-chief may deem necessary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. GARDINER AUSTIN.

Inclosure 11 in No. 6.

Major-General Sir C. T. van Straubenzee to Mr. Parkes.

Sir, *Head-Quarters, Canton, November* 4, 1859.

IN reply to your letter of the 1st instant, I have the honour to state that having consulted with the Commandant of the French Imperial forces, there is no objection on our part to the license requested being granted to Mr. Gardine Austin to open a depôt or house for Chinese emigrants within our jurisdiction under the five Regulations submitted to and approved by his Excellency Laou the Acting Governor-General.

We also approve the draft of the Regulations for the conducting houses or depôts thus licensed submitted by you, with the few alterations herewith forwarded.

I have, &c.
(Sigued) C. T. VAN STRAUBENZEE.

Inclosure 12 in No. 6.

Rules under which Houses for the reception of Chinese Emigrants to Foreign Countries may be opened within the limits of the Allied Jurisdiction at Canton.

1. THE applicant for permission to open an Emigration House to furnish the Commissioners with written particulars as to his name, nation, and the extent and character of his intended operations. If unauthorized by any Government to conduct emigration, he must produce the approval of his Consul for doing so.

2. The applicant will also furnish copies to all the Commissioners of all Rules, of whatever description, under which he proposes to conduct the emigration, or to regulate the business of the Emigration House, as well as of all conditions or terms under which he proposes to engage the emigrants. All such Rules must receive the approval of the Commissioners before they can be carried into effect; and any new Regulation or alteration in the old Rules that the person conducting the emigration may at any time think it necessary to adopt, must in the same way be first submitted to and approved by the Commissioners before being enforced or acted on.

3. Copies of all the said Rules and Regulations, when so approved, as well as of all the conditions or terms under which emigrants are to be engaged, are to be posted up in such manner that they can be easily seen and read at all the entrances to the Emigration House, as well as in the quarters occupied by the emigrants.

4. The Emigration House will be inspected at any time that the Allied Commissioners may choose to appoint, by officers of the Allied Police, who will be authorized to muster and speak with the emigrants, and to put any inquiries they may see fit, in order to obtain the fullest particulars as to the manner in which the establishment is conducted and the emigrants are engaged. They will inspect the quarters of the emigrants, and see that careful attention is paid to their health, comfort, and cleanliness. They will also examine the books of the establishment, with a view to ascertaining that a careful registration is kept of all the emigrants engaged under these regulations.

5. In the event of the houses or depôts for emigrants taking in both sexes, the accommodation for females or families is to be separate from that provided for single male emigrants, and to be so arranged as to insure decency, and such privacy as they may reasonably claim.

6. The door of the Emigration House will be opened at sunrise, and closed

again at sunset; and free egress and ingress, without any let or hindrance whatever, will be allowed to all the emigrants residing in the Emigration House, within certain hours on each day to be approved by the Commissioners.

7. The person in charge of the Emigration House is to employ such number of servants or watchmen as may from time to time be found necessary to maintain order during day and night throughout his premises; and every person employed in the Emigration House, whether foreign or Chinese, is to be registered at the Commissioner's yamun in the manner appointed by the Commissioners.

8. In the event of any difference or dispute between the person conducting the emigration and the emigrant, the latter will always have a right of appeal to the Allied Commissioners; and any complaint or claim that the person conducting the emigration may have to make against an emigrant may be adjudicated by the Allied Commissioners, unless the emigrant be satisfied with the decision of the Chinese officer superintending the emigration.

9. No corporal punishment can be inflicted within the Emigration House; and in the event of any emigrant committing a punishable offence, the offender may be arrested, but must at once be forwarded to the Allied Commissioners, with a statement of the case, and the Allied Commissioners, if they see fit, will hand him over to the Chinese authorities for punishment.

10. No emigrant can be embarked without forty-eight hours' notice of the same being given in writing to the Allied Commissioners, who, if they see fit, will appoint officers of the Allied Police to be present at the embarkation and the departure of the vessel, and the number and names of the emigrants she takes to sea must be reported by the person conducting the emigration to the Allied Commissioners.

11. The Allied Commanders reserve to themselves the right to close these establishments, or any one of them, whenever they may consider it advisable to do so, and without explanation.

12. It is in the power of the Allied Commissioners, acting with the approval of the Allied Commanders, to establish from time to time such further Rules as may be judged necessary for the proper regulation of the emigration and the well-being of the emigrants.

13. The infraction of any of the above or other Rules that may be established in the manner aforesaid, to be punishable either by fine levied on the person conducting the emigration, or by closing the Emigration House upon the order of the Allied Commanders.

Inclosure 13 in No. 6.

Mr. Parkes to Mr. Austin.

Allied Commissioners' Yamun, Canton,
November 5, 1859.

Sir,

THE Allied Commissioners having laid before the Allied Commanders your application of the 31st ultimo, to occupy certain premises (known as the Kumlong hong) in the Western Suburb, as the house in which you propose to conduct an emigration on account of the British Government to the British West Indies, I have now to inform you that the Allied Commanders have sanctioned the opening of this establishment under the Regulations which I herewith inclose for your information and guidance, and those five others which have already received the approval of his Excellency the Governor of this Province.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HARRY S. PARKES.

Inclosure 14 in No. 6.

Public Notice.

By Austin, Special Agent of the British Government for the Regulating and Encouragement of Emigration from China to the British West Indies.

WE have hitherto seen that the want of labour in various foreign Colonies has brought foreigners to China to engage labourers, while the difficulty often

experienced by Chinese in obtaining subsistence in their own densely-populated land has induced many of them to go abroad to seek a livelihood. But it has been found that the absence of all regulation on the subject has prevented check and precluded inquiry, and thus a door has been opened to the villainy of designing men, who, using the name of emigration to give a character to their proceedings, have, in reality, sought only to serve their own avaricious views by kidnapping their fellow-men. The British Government hold such persons in the deepest abhorrence, and earnestly try for their entire suppression.

The British West Indian territories are of great extent, and contain an abundance of fine lands. The planters (who have large estates, and are men of considerable wealth) have hitherto obtained supplies of labour from Bengal and Madras, in British India, and as the latter is not far removed from China, and the Chinese have long since evinced a disposition to go abroad (as is seen at the British Settlements of Singapore and Malacca, and other places, where thousands of them are already located), it was natural that the West Indian planters should also come to China to obtain labour.

By the engagement of labour the poor and the rich should be alike advantaged—the rich by the services of the poor, and the poor by the money of the rich; and much it is to be deplored that an emigration which should have been attended with this result has, of late years, in consequence of the prevalence of kidnapping, been productive of most serious evils. Nor does it appear that these can be avoided, unless the emigration is conducted under proper regulations.

The British Government cannot endure that the ignorant classes of the Chinese should become the victims of base deception, and they have therefore determined to conduct the emigration to their Colonies by means of special officers, who can consult the interests of all parties, instead of allowing private people to engage in it who may be careful only of their own personal benefit.

The Undersigned, having now been appointed by his Government to set on foot an emigration from Kwang-tung to the British West Indies, has determined upon conducting this at Canton under certain Regulations (five in number) which have received the sanction of the Allied Commissioners and his Excellency the Governor of the Province. The Kinlung Packhouse, in the Te-lung-le Street, in the Western Suburb, has been engaged by him as an Emigration House for the reception of emigrants in conformity with these Regulations, and it now remains for him to make known to the people full particulars of the conditions under which he is prepared to engage labourers, and which are contained in the following Articles:—

1. There is no slavery wherever the British flag flies; the law in all British Possessions is the same for rich and poor: and all religions are tolerated and protected. The British Government have also appointed Special Magistrates in the West Indian Colonies to look after and protect the strangers who go there to seek employment.

2. The climate of the British West Indian Colonies is very similar to that of Southern China. The cultivation is chiefly that of the sugar-cane; but rice, cotton, and coffee are also grown there, together with most of the fruits and vegetables produced in China.

3. The emigrant to the British West Indies will be engaged, under contract, to serve there for a term of five years, to date from his arrival in the Colonies. Should he require it, an advance of wages to the extent of 20 dollars will be made him, to be repaid by gradual deductions from his wages after arrival at his destination. He will be provided with a free passage, the cost of which may be estimated at 75 dollars. Clothing for the voyage, and, of course, food, will be supplied gratuitously, and it should be known that the feeding of the emigrants on their passage is regulated by a special law. The length of the voyage may be estimated as under 100 days.

4. As the emigrants themselves have no knowledge of the price of labour in the British West Indies, a fixed sum of 4 dollars per month is first offered them; but if, on their arrival in the Colony, they prefer to be paid by the day, in the same way as the non-contract labourers, they have only to signify their wishes to the Magistrate, who will make the necessary alterations in their contract, and see that they are placed on the same footing as to remuneration. They will still, of course, have to serve the stipulated period of five years. Should it happen, however, that any labourer, having thus entered into a contract

for five years, wishes to cancel it at the close of the first year, or at any other subsequent period of his service, either from a desire to return home or to accept elsewhere any other occupation, he is at liberty to do so on repayment of four-fifths of his passage-money if he has completed only one year's service, or a less sum, calculated at 15 dollars for every year's service remaining to be fulfilled. In addition to the said wage of 4 dollars per month, food, house, garden-ground, and medical attendance will be provided. A day's labour consists of seven and a-half hours' work, and the labourer is at liberty to employ the remaining time in each day in whatever manner he may find profitable to himself. If, instead of taking the monthly wage of 4 dollars, he prefers the daily pay of the non-contract labourers, he will then have to find his own food, but will still be entitled to house, garden-ground, and medical attendance free of charge.

5. Those emigrants who are unable to take their families with them, and wish to provide for their maintenance, may allot to them 1 or 2 dollars out of their monthly wages of 4 dollars, which allotment shall be paid monthly to them by the Emigration Agent at Canton; the remaining portion of the wage, namely, 2 or 3 dollars, as the case may be, being received by the labourer himself in the Colony. On the other hand, those emigrants who wish to be accompanied by their families may take them with them free of charge, and a gift of 20 dollars to the wife and 5 dollars to each child shall, moreover, be made to enable them to provide extra comforts for the passage. The women will be unfettered by any engagement whatsoever, being entirely free either to work or accept service, or to attend solely to their household duties, as their own wants and inclinations may determine. Families will in all cases live together, and provision will be made for the gratuitous education of the children.

6. In order that the emigrants may have the means of constant communication with their families or friends, their letters may at all times be forwarded free of expense, through the Government, from the Colonies to Kwang-tung, and through the Emigration Agent from Kwang-tung to the Colonies, by the usual bi-monthly mail steamers. Remittances of money may also be made in the same way.

Dated at Canton, the 5th day of November, 1859.

The five Regulations, which have received the sanction of the authorities, are hereto annexed.

Inclosure 15 in No. 6.

Proposed Rules for Emigration House.

1. ANY applicant for admission to the Emigration House to be fully informed by the Resident Agent, in presence of the Mandarin, of the terms offered, the proposed destination, and Rules of the House.

2. Full particulars as to the sex, name, age, place of birth, &c., must be recorded previous to admission.

3. Medical inspection must take place before admission.

4. Emigrants once registered must be taken to the bath-room, to be there cleansed and clothed in the house dress. The old dress must be washed and put away in a special "old clothes closet," with the emigrant's number for re-delivery to him on final departure from the house.

5. No emigrant to leave the house or return thereto without notice to the door-keeper, who will keep a register of the hour of exit and return.

6. No emigrant to be absent more than eight or ten hours, without special leave from the Resident Agent, on pain of being proceeded before the Commissioners as a deserter, or for theft of the Home clothes.

7. Any emigrant desiring to quit the House, and be struck off the register, must intimate the same to the Resident Agent, and shall be allowed to depart with his own clothes, or re-delivery of those supplied for the use at the depôt. Should an emigrant have remained in the Emigration House more than seven days, and be then only induced to change his mind, he will be liable, if not giving satisfactory reasons for a change, to prosecution before the Commissioners, for obtaining food, clothes, and lodging, under false pretences.

8. Emigration House to be thoroughly cleansed twice a day, each emigrant being responsible for the cleanliness of the room or space allotted to him, whilst such parts as may be considered public shall be cleansed by the emigrants generally in rotations fixed by the Resident Agent.

9. Unless by special permission to the contrary, the meals must be taken at the tables specially provided in the public portion of the House, and at such stated periods as the Resident Agent may direct.

10. The emigrants must all be washed and dressed at 8 A.M., and must then assemble for morning inspection.

11. The diet of each emigrant shall be as follows:—One catty sound rice; four taels fresh pork, or four taels salt fish; tea and vegetables to the value of 20 cash; fire-wood and soap will also be supplied.

12. Except by special permission of the Resident Agent, no lights other than the public ones shall be used in the Emigration House after 8 P.M.

13. For unruly conduct, or for any breach of the Home Regulations, the Resident Agent shall be at liberty to order an emigrant to close confinement for any time not exceeding six hours, a special register being kept of all such cases, and a report thereof sent to the Allied Commissioners.

14. The Resident Agent shall be at liberty to dismiss any emigrant summarily from the Emigration House, and strike his name off the register, the reasons influencing his conduct being entered in the Register under the head of "Remarks." No dismissal, however, shall be carried into effect save by day.

Inclosure 16 in No. 6.

Mr. Parkes to Mr. Austin.

Allied Commissioners' Yamun, Canton,
Sir, *November* 7, 1859.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the inclosed copy of your Rules for your Emigration House at Canton have received the Commissioners' approval.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HARRY S. PARKES.

Inclosure 17 in No. 6.

Mr. Parkes to Mr. Bruce.

Sir, *Canton, November* 10, 1859.

I HAVE the honour to inclose translation of a letter which the Allied Commissioners received from the Governor-General Laoh on the 8th instant, formally informing them of an array of facts as set forth in the depositions of forty-one men rescued from the hands of kidnappers, which prove to what a dreadful extent kidnapping has been carried on at Whampoa to meet the demands of the coolie trade at that anchorage. His Excellency again takes this opportunity to point out how necessary it is that the engagement of Chinese labourers for service in foreign countries should be conducted under proper regulations, and, while again declaring his adhesion to the measures which have lately been instituted at Canton in respect to British West Indian emigration, he asserts the necessity of entirely prohibiting the traffic when it is not so regulated, and states his intention of calling on all the foreign Consuls to bring the question to the notice of their respective Governments with a view to its efficient adjustment.

I have forwarded this letter to the Allied Commanders, who, although unable to interfere materially in a question which it is clear must be reserved for Consular or Diplomatic action, are most willing to give his Excellency the benefit of their advice and information, and it is to be hoped that his Excellency will thus be encouraged to persevere in the measures he has set on foot for preventing Whampoa again becoming a haunt for kidnappers and villains of the most infamous stamp. It was probably owing to the representations of the Commissioners that his Excellency lately planned the capture of the native craft engaged

in the sale of coolies at that anchorage. On the 1st instant a force of war-boats proceeded to Whampoa, and coming suddenly upon these craft, arrested and brought to Canton about 77 persons; 41 of these were found to be the kidnapped people whose depositions are given in the second inclosure to this despatch; the remaining 36 were tried on the charge of having kidnapped and sold their fellow-men, and, after an investigation which lasted four days, 18 were condemned to capital punishment, 11 others to a mitigated penalty, the precise extent of which has not yet been determined, and the remaining 7 were acquitted. The 18 men condemned to death were beheaded this morning at the usual place of execution.

The Governor-General had at one time determined to execute 23 of these kidnappers, and had forwarded to the Allied Commanders their confessions, which I inclose in translation; but, at the suggestion of the Allied Commanders, his Excellency again revised the proceedings, and, actuated by humane considerations, reprieved 5 of the condemned criminals.

The example is, indeed, a terrible one; but it is to be feared that the Chinese engaged in the traffic, and whose numbers up to this date appear to have been on the increase, can only be deterred by a sense of danger from persevering in the iniquities detailed in these inclosures, and which are, at least, as revolting as the punishment with which they are liable to be visited. It is also deeply to be desired that Laou's appeal to the foreign Governments may meet with a worthy response; for though the people may know that the seizure and sale of their countrymen can only be effected by native agency, they also commonly believe, and with only too good cause, that the practice is the result of foreign instigation; and a sense of wrong, coupled possibly also with a desire for revenge, which this belief, if allowed to become deep-rooted, is calculated to awaken, would prove far more injurious to the foreign interests in China, than all the political difficulties with which we have hitherto had to contend.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HARRY S. PARKES.

Inclosure 18 in No. 6.

Governor-General Laou to the Allied Commissioners.

(Translation.)

IT having appeared that in China there is a class of miscreants who kidnap innocent people, and clandestinely sell them for export under the name of "selling pigs," to the undoubted detriment of the country, I deputed an officer secretly and assiduously to search for and seize (such characters). He has now in the Chang-chow country (the Whampoa anchorage) apprehended a number of kidnappers, and brought out thence many persons who had been kidnapped.

These people state in their depositions that they had been already sent on board foreign ships, and sent back again, on account of age or disease; also that there now are several persons detained (on board); and I now inclose copy of the statements made by forty-one kidnapped persons who have been examined, that you, the honourable Commissioners, may be fully informed of the infamy of kidnapping.

As far as I have hitherto known of foreigners, the majority of them are skilled in business, and discern what is right, and I do not think that they would intentionally engage in this kidnapping business; it is evidently native miscreants who carry on this most detestable part between both parties (*i.e.*, between Chinese and foreigners).

In the midst of the constant intercourse which I have lately had with you for the purpose of framing regulations upon a secure basis, and setting on foot a measure calculated to further this business, I am apprehensive that other countries may not be fully informed upon the subject. Besides, therefore, communicating the arrangements to the Consuls of different nations, it is incumbent on me, knowing, as I do, from experience, how admirably the honourable Commissioners manage matters, and their clear and comprehensive discernment, to request that you will submit the whole case for the consideration of the Allied Commanders-in-chief, that they may judge as to the practicability of making it generally known to all nations, that whenever their respective subjects come to

China to hire labourers, they must decide upon a set of fixed regulations with the local authorities for carrying out the business under a system of close and strict surveillance; and if unwilling to act under regulations, they will then be prohibited to hire Chinese to go abroad, and thus the abuses which kidnapping gives rise to would be prevented.

Chin-sze deposes that two persons named Lae-a-she and Yeh-a-fuh, and Tsang-e states that four others, are all detained on board a foreign ship. If you can discover for me in what ship they may be, and, provided she has not sailed, procure their release, I shall consider that you, the honourable Commissioners, must have managed the matter with proper secresy and despatch.

I therefore send you this communication, availing myself, &c.

A necessary communication.

(Dated November 8, 1859.)

Inclosure 19 in No. 6.

Depositions of Forty-one Kidnapped Chinese.

No. 1. Li-fu deposes:—Am from the Hai-feng district, aged 38, a labourer; have a younger brother named Li-aming, a shopkeeper at Macao. On the 1st of the 10th month being at San-to-chu, in the Hai-feng district, I crossed over in the ferry to Hwei-chow, and met an acquaintance, named Akwei, on the road. This man said that he also knew my brother, and persuaded me to go to him in his boat. I followed him without suspicion on board, and was taken to Chang-chow, to be sold against my will as a coolie. I was confined in the hold of a vessel, until released and sent up for examination by a military officer who came to institute a search.

A true statement.

No. 2. Liang-chi-yeng deposes:—Was formerly a resident in the Nan-hai district, but removed with my father to Lio-chow-fu in Kwang-si; am 33 years of age. In the third month of the current year, became one of the guards of a mandarin named Tou, went in the seventh month to Tê-ching, where I was discharged; later I served as a brave at Shao-ching-fu, but was thrown out of employ together with more than twenty others, on being attacked with ulcers, and on the 12th of the 9th month, I went to Tê-ching-chow to seek medical assistance. I had never been to Canton, and on the 25th of the 9th month, a man named Hwang-a-siu, of the Po-lo district, imposed upon me with the statement that he was about to return to Canton to serve as a soldier under the above-mentioned Tou. I was on board Hwang-a-siu's boat until the 29th of the 9th month, being quite ignorant of the locality; when I witnessed him offering me for sale to foreigners, who, however, on seeing that I was suffering from ulcers would not purchase. Later I was released by soldiers, who took me up for examination.

A true statement.

No. 3. Ts'ai-chien-ling deposes:—Am aged 26, from Lung-chiang in the Shun-tê district. On the 3rd day of the present month, an acquaintance named Li-hsien-hsing, stated that hands were wanted on board a sea-going junk at three dollars per month; suspecting no fraud, I agreed to go. On the 4th Li-hsien-hsing took me to Fatshan, where we hired a small boat, and in three hours reached Chang-chow, when the true state of the case suddenly occurred to me, and I endeavoured to escape. Li-hsien-hsing, however, took me and put me in confinement on board a larger boat, which being afterwards searched by mandarin soldiers, I was released and taken up for examination.

A true statement.

No. 4. Yan-chang deposes:—Am aged 42, from the village Ching-lan-sz, in the Tsêng-cheng district; earn my living as a porter (coolie). An acquaintance named Li-a-hwa was employed in Canton, in a wedding-chair manufactory in the Hsia-chin-fu street, and it occurred to me on the 6th instant, to come to the city to see this man. In the morning of that day, being at Sha-tang-hsü, I met an acquaintance from the Lung-mei district, named Lo-akwei, who said that he

also was bound for the city, and invited me to go in his boat, whereupon I embarked. Leaving Sha-tang-hsü, we arrived at 4 P.M. of the same day at Chang-chow, where Lo-akwei took me on board a large boat (hsia-kou-ting). On the 8th I was seized by mandarin soldiers, but the kidnappers escaped by swimming. I was taken up for examination.

A true statement.

No. 5. Hwang-leang states:—I am 33 years old; a Tsung-po-heang man from Hwang-ting-tsz in the Nan-hai district. In the Yin-yang-li street of Chen village, Hwang-ping-hwa opened a shop for the sale of tin ware: I worked in this shop, because there was no trade. On the 3rd of the month there came a Tung-kwan man, named Wu-chien-yiu, who had before been a fellow-workman of mine. He entered the shop and enticed me by saying there was work to be got at Shih-lung. He asked me to go with him, and I consented. So on the 4th of the month after breakfast I entered a ship with Wu-chien-yiu, and went to Canton, immediately going on to Whampoa. Chien-yiu said, "Let us go over to a hsia-kow ship and stay the night," I immediately went to this ship with him. The people on board asked us where we wanted to go; I replied, I want to go to Shih-lung in Tung-kwan; the man replied that I had been sold to them as a coolie. I felt anything but comfortable when they threw me into the hold and locked me there. On the 8th mandarin soldiers came and took me for examination.

A true statement.

No. 6. Fung-leen asserts:—I am 22 years old; a man from Leang-shan-hwankow, in Tae-yih-wei's Tanka people. I gained my living in Yiu-chen's Ta-i-wei by agriculture. Because water inundated the fields I was unable to work. On the 2nd, an old acquaintance, a barber named Leang-a-yiu came to ask after me. On the 3rd day he led me on the road to Macao to inspect it. He then went with me on board a vessel to supper. On the evening of the 4th the ship started, and on the 7th arrived at Whampoa and anchored. A Whampoa boat came alongside immediately, and took me with Leang-a-yiu over to the hsia-kow vessel. Leang-a-yiu jumped ashore and went away. The people on board the hsia-kow-ting told me that Leang-a-yiu would come back, and bade me go below and sleep. After that they kept me locked up in the hold. On the 8th the mandarin-soldiers came and took me to the examination.

A true statement.

No. 7. Mei-hsui asserts:—I am 43 years of age, and am a Ta-tung-hseang man from Chang-pu-sz, in the Nan-hai district. I was once a small runner in in the Pan-yu's yamun. There was an old acquaintance named Ling-a-urh, who in the river of Chuk-wang-li keeps a little boat and sells various things. He asked me to join him in working the boat, because I, while a runner, had but very little pay. I immediately assented, bundled up my clothes, and followed Sing-a-urh. We arrived at Whampoa and there anchored. Sing-a-urh went on shore and walked away, bidding me take care of the boat, because there was a large hsia-kow vessel which would seize it. Therefore I could not leave and walk about. On the 8th of the month mandarin-soldiers came and took me up for examination.

A true statement.

No. 8. Yea-shen states:—I am 34 years old. I am from Le-shwuy-tsun, in Shen-ngan-tsz, of the Nan-hai district. A little time ago I was in the Kwan-yaou river, in Tung-a-ngan's grain-vessel, as a sailor. On the 6th day of this month of the present year, I, together with Tung-a-ngan, rowed the vessel to Canton to buy rice. The vessel anchored off the Shameen Fort. Early on the 7th I went on shore to walk in the Tung-te-ta street, where I met an old acquaintance named Ho-chêng. I told him that I should like to find employment in some other direction. Ho-chêng replied, I advise you to go to Whampoa river to row the Chang-hsing boats. That very day I gave warning to my former master, and followed Ho-chêng to Hsien-yiu-lan, where we hired a small boat and went to Whampoa river, alongside of the hsia-kow-ting, and went on board the hsia-kow boat to eat rice. Ho-chêng said to me, I am very poor, and will take and sell you to the foreigners (as a coolie) to work. I did

not want to; so they took me and shut me up in the hold. On the 8th, mandarin-soldiers came and took me up for examination. I never committed any offence.

A true statement.

No. 9. Li-sheng deposes:—Am from Chia-ying-chou; aged 35; by trade a pencil dealer. On the 7th of the 10th month I went to Shih-kang in the Pwanyu district to dispose of a lot of pencils. A kidnapper, whose name I do not know, bought several dozen, agreeing to give 1,500 cash for the lot, and took me on board his vessel to be paid. When on board I was pushed into the hold, and taken to Chang-chow, near Whampoa, where it was intended to sell me to foreigners, but I was there seized by a guard of soldiers.

A true statement.

No. 10. Li-ngan deposes:—Am from the Sin-hwei district; aged 31; a small shop-keeper. On the 14th of the 9th month an acquaintance named Akwan, surname unknown, induced me to go to Chang-chow, to serve as cook's mate on board a large junk, at two dollars per month. Arrived on the 16th at Chang-chow, when Akwan delivered me on board the vessel belonging to Li-afu, now in custody, where I was put in confinement; was suddenly released and taken away.

A true statement.

No. 11. Tai-chuen-ming deposes:—Am from Hwei-chow; aged 28. On the 3rd of the 1st month of the current year I entered the Militia at Wu-chow, and was discharged on the 25th of the 7th month. At the advice of Lin-a-san I came to Canton to trade; and on the 6th of the 10th month Lin-a-san kidnapped me to Chang-chow, to sell me as a coolie. The foreigners seeing that my feet were sore would not buy me; and on the 8th, while on board the vessel, I called out for help, when a party of militia came and instituted a search. The kidnappers escaped.

A true statement.

No. 12. Li-urh deposes:—Am from the Kwei-shan district; aged 38; a farm labourer. Was informed on the 5th of the 10th month by Li-chin-hsien, a man of the same district, that braves were advertised for at Canton, and he invited me to accompany him thither. Never having been to the city before, I went under his guidance, when Li-chin-hsien took me, without my knowledge, to Chang-chow, intending to sell me as a coolie to the foreigners. At that time no dealings were going on, and I was seized and taken away by soldiers.

A true statement.

No. 13. Yang-fu deposes:—Am 19 years of age; by trade a sash-weaver; residing within the Pwanyu district, near the little North Gate, inside the walls. On the 30th of the 9th month Chên-a-chio, an old acquaintance, enticed me to accompany him in search of employment. I suspected nothing; and on the 1st of the 10th month Chen-a-Chio hired a boat on the Canton river, and went with me to Chang-chow. On the 3rd he sold me for six dollars, on board a coolie vessel, and then made off, when I was put in confinement by the kidnappers.

Having now been released, and held to examination, I make an accurate statement of the case.

No. 14. Leao-leen deposes:—I am 46 years of age, and belong to the Lung-mun district. There was living with me in the same village a kinsman named Ah-hae. I was persuaded by him to come to Canton by his offer of employment. On the 1st of the 10th moon I accordingly took a passage on board his boat, and started. On the 7th we arrived at Woo-chung, on the main river, where we were taken by some soldiers, Leao-ah-hae having previously made off.

This is true.

No. 15. Ma-seu:—I am 32 years old, and of the Sin-ning district. I had amongst my acquaintance a man named Li-ah-ngan, who allured me from home

by offers of employment at Canton. Misled by him on the 4th of the 10th month, I went with him on board a Heang-shan passage-boat to Canton. On the day of arriving there, I went in a small boat to Chang-chow, on the main river, and on the 5th Li-ah-ngan took me and sold me to the Coolie Agent; and having received six dollars, he departed. The Coolie Agent then took me and put me on board the coolie ship.

This is a true account of how I was taken.

No. 16. Chow-yuen-tih:—I am 22, of the Kạe-ping district, and am a shoemaker by trade. On the 28th of the 9th moon, I took some money to Canton to purchase leather, but spent it all in other ways. Three men with whom I was acquainted, named Tsung-ah-tsz, Yeh-ah-yew, and Chin-ah-shing, induced me to go with them to Chang-chow, by telling me I could get leather there on credit. On the 6th of the 10th month we hired a boat to take us thither, and when there, went on board a lighter to live. On the 7th, a foreigner came on board, and turning towards me, said he hired me to work. I answered, I had no desire (for work). The foreigner then went away, and afterwards a man struck me with his knife. I nevertheless still resisted, and was thereupon shut up in the hold, where I remained till I was taken in charge.

This is the truth.

No. 17. Chung-ke:—I am 34, of the Lung-mun district. Am a field-labourer by trade. My own brother Sung-hing having been kidnapped on the 3rd of the 10th month, I went in search of him to Chang-chow, and there fell in with an acquaintance named Seu-a-tsin, who was pulling about in a boat with fire-wood for sale; who, offering to assist me in my search, took me on board a foreign ship, with the intention of selling me. I, as soon as I saw what he was after, resisted. Seu-a-tsin, with two other men whom I did not know, then seized me, and shut me up in the wood-boat.

This is how I was taken, and is a true account.

No. 18. Tsun-kin-ngan states:—I am 36, and belong to the Ho-yuen district. I am a fish-seller by trade. On the 1st of the present month, an acquaintance named Hwang'rh deceived me into going with him to Canton to get employment, and took a passage thither on the 4th. As we passed Whampoa, Hwang'rh induced me to go with him into a boat lying there, to sit awhile. I, misled by him, went, and was shut up by him, and sold to some foreigners; but the bargain not being completed, I was carried back to the boat I came in, and fastened down in the hold, and there remained till taken in charge (by the soldiers).

This is true.

No. 19. Tsun-chang states:—I am 36, and belong to the Tung-kwan district. I am a pedlar by trade. On the 3rd of the present month, an acquaintance, Li-ah-chang, engaged me to go with him to Canton, to act as salesman for him, and we took our passage thither. On the 7th, as we passed Chang-chow, Li-ah-chang left the boat with me for another, where he shut me up. Thus was I when taken (by the soldiers).

This is true.

No. 20. Hu-tien deposes:—I am from Shih-lung-hsü, in the Tung-kwan district; aged 18. Was previously employed in the Fu-hsiang shop in Shih-lung. On the 29th of the 9th month I was decoyed to the city by Hwang-a-fu, to serve as cook's mate on board a salt-junk. On the 6th of the 10th month I went to the city, when Hwang-a-fu told me to return to Shih-lung to hire a fishing-boat. The same night he took me to Woo-chung, where a man, whose name I do not know, came up in a Whampoa boat. Hwang-a-fu, with the help of the new-comer, seized me, and took me on board a foreign ship. I understood at once that I was to be sold as a coolie against my will; but the foreigners immediately ordered me, together with Hwang-a-fu, to return on board the boat. The same night I was taken by mandarin soldiers, who came to make a search, but Hwang-a-fu, hearing a noise, made his escape.

A true statement.

No. 21. Lio-fu-hsing deposes:—Am from the village of Shih-chung, in Chin-shan-sz, in the Tung-kwan district; aged 46. Went in search of employment to the city on the 4th of the 10th month, and reached Canton on the 6th. I staid awhile at my aunt's house in the Hsieh-le-ten street. In the Hsien-hsiang street I met a man named Hwang-ashen, to whom I mentioned that I was exceedingly destitute, whereupon he enticed me to go to Chang-chow to sell flowers. Accordingly, on the 7th I accompanied him in a Woo-chung boat to Chang-chow. Hwang-ashen then took me on board a junk, and wanted me to gamble, but I refused. The crew, standing around, endeavoured to persuade me, but I still refused. About midnight I was seized and taken away by mandarin soldiers making their rounds.

A true statement.

No. 22. Li-pei deposes:—Am from Shih-chiao, in the Tung-kwan district; aged 25. Have been a dealer in firewood at Lung-mun. On the 29th of the 9th month, a man named Chen-a-yeo induced me to return to Lung-men to receive some payments, and he accompanied me thither. Chen-a-yeo told me that he was going to Hwang-lien, where he also had some money to receive; and on the 3rd instant I accompanied him on board Wang-a-sz's boat to Hwang-hien. On the 7th we reached Chang-chow, where Chen-a-yeo called two Whampoa boats, saying that the men owed my father for firewood, and advised me to demand the money, but the boatmen denied the debt. Hereupon Chen-a-yeo said, the men who owe the money are now on board a gambling boat; I will take you to recover it of them. Chen-a-yeo went first on board the gambling boat, and then seizing me pushed me down below. On the 8th mandarin soldiers came to make a search; Chen-a-yeo escaped, and I was released.

A true statement.

No. 23. Hwang-chin deposes:—Am originally from the Tung-kwan district; aged 16. On the 2nd of the 10th month I was at the Yih-ling Temple begging, when I was falsely informed by Achio that a servant was required by some musicians. He agreed on the wages, and settled that on the 3rd he would take me to Chang-chow. When at Whampoa he took me on board the boat belonging to the man named Chen-a-hsin, now in custody, and enticed me to hire myself as a labourer abroad. The foreigners, when I was taken on board their ship, observing my youth, would not have me; whereupon I was taken away and confined in the other boat. We were all suddenly seized by mandarin soldiers.

A true statement.

No. 24. Wei-sin deposes:—I am 41 years of age; Tseng-cheng-hseen is my native place, and I gained my livelihood by vending fowls. On the 5th day of the 10th month I was in Woo-chung; there was in that place a man, of whose name I am ignorant, who bought fowls from me, and cozened me to go to Whampoa to get my money. I did not think that on his ship he would take and shut me up in the hold with the intention of fraudulently selling me as a coolie. After this happened, on the 8th, the mandarin sought for and seized the ship. The ship's crew, to the number of seven, swam away with all speed. I was taken with the ship and brought up for examination. I have never committed any offence.

My statement is true.

No. 25. Tsung-yih asserts:—I am 38 years old, and come from the village of Nan-tau, in the Kwae-shun district. I get my living by hawking pencils. This year, on the 5th of the 10th month, I met on the road a person I had known before, named Leau-wih. He told me that Taou, the magistrate, was calling out the braves, at six dollars a month wages, and persuaded me to go in the Shih-lung passage-boat at once to Whampoa. There were four men whose names I don't know in the boat with me. In the evening we arrived at Whampoa, and were put into a Whampoa boat. On the 7th, Leau-wih took us five men on board a foreign ship. Every one of us now knew that Lieu-wih wished furtively to sell us as coolies, and we told the foreigners we did not want to go. The foreigners immediately ordered us back into the Whampoa boat. The four

men were dragged back by Leau-wih on board the foreign ship. Leau-wih took me and confined me in the hold of the Whampoa boat. On the 8th Taou, the magistrate, sought and seized me and the boat, and brought me up for judicial examination. The sailors on board the boat threw themselves overboard, and escaped by swimming. I have never committed any offence.

My statement is true.

No. 26. Leang-teh states:—I am 31 years old, and am from the Kan-yan-hseen district. I gained a living with a Canton western suburb man, called Acheng (I don't know his family name), by selling the yellow plantain. On the 2nd of the 10th month of the present year, the aforesaid Acheng invited me to go to Whampoa to purchase goods. I did not suppose that Acheng would cozen and beguile me on board a foreign ship to sell me as a coolie for sixteen dollars (yet such was the case). The foreigners did not like me in consequence of a disease I had; whereupon Acheng took me and offered me for sale to the master of a vessel who was called Aming, but whose family name I don't know. He gave twelve dollars to Acheng, who thereupon quickly went away. Aming kept me in the hold, thinking to detain me until my disease was cured, and then to kidnap and sell me. Luckily on the 8th the magistrate, Taou, sought me out and took me. Taou, with me, took a man called Alew, whose family name I don't know, and the ship, and examined us.

What I say is truth. I never committed any offence.

No. 27. Chan-shih-lien states:—I am 30 years old, and am from Kwei-shan-hseen. I usually worked for my living in the ship of Le-yuen-yung. He afterwards dismissed me, because there was no trade. This year, on the 2nd day of the 10th month, I was serving in the Tau-meng boat of Ho-poling. He told me clearly that my wages were four dollars per month. (I declared) that if he went to Hong Kong I would not go; whereupon he offered me a rupee a month. The sailors with me had before informed against Hook-a-kwei, but not against Lai-a-fuh, or Yea-a-lung. The four men and I did not think that on the 3rd the boat would go to Whampoa to anchor (yet it did so). Early on the morning of the 4th, Ho-poling ran away, and Wu-a-kwei dragged me over to a ship, to sell me for a coolie. The man to whom I was taken for purchase (I don't know his name, he is a native of Hae-fung) took his fist and struck me, and pushed me into the hold. On the 8th the mandarin Taou searched for and found me, and, taking the ship, brought me up for examination. The crew all jumped overboard, and made off, swimming. I never committed any offence.

No. 28. Chen-yuen deposes:—I am 44 years old, and a native of Kai-pin-hsien. I get my living by being a waterman. On the 2nd of this month I met an old acquaintance, named Hsü-a-ming, in Sha-he-meen; he enticed me to go to a foreign ship to work. I went on the 6th to Whampoa, and on the 7th I went over to a ship, the name of which I don't remember. Hsü-a-ming immediately left. The master of the vessel took me to a foreign ship. The foreigners did not like me, saying I was old, and they did not want me. I was then taken back and put into the hold (of the vessel). On the 8th the police came and searched, and took me for magisterial examination. I never committed any offence.

No. 29. Le-tsan-hsin asserts:—I am 55 years old, a native of Ting-kwan-hseen. I gain a living as a waterman. On the 5th of this month I met an old friend, Seay-a-kwan, who beguiled me to Whampoa, and led me on board a foreign ship. The foreigners seeing me, said I was old, and they did not want me. Lih-a-kwan took me and bound me in a ship. On the 8th the Tan-pan police-boat sought and took me to examination. I never committed any offence.

No. 30. Cheng-kwan-tsin asserts:—I am 33 years old, a native of Tsang-cheng-seen, and gain a living by vending dried fish. On the 5th day of this month I went to Shih-lung to buy goods, and was decoyed by Wang-a-cheen into the Shih-kang river, where he wished to drag me on board a large sea-going vessel. I did not want to go, and vociferated at the top of my voice. A police-

boat came, and took me for examination. The boat's crew jumped overboard, and escaped by swimming. I never committed any offence.

No. 31. Leu-hwui asserts:—I am 25 years old, a native of Tung-kwan-hseen; I gain my living by selling fruit. On the 1st of the month an old acquaintance, Tsin-a-yeu, invited me to his locality to work I accepted the proposal, and, on the 2nd, arrived at Canton to sell fruit, and then return. I met Chow-a-chuen, who invited me, with Tsin-a-yeu, on board a vessel to eat rice. I missed Tsin-a-yeu, so I went alone on board Chow-a-chuen's ship. Evening came on. On the 5th day I was dragged by Chow-a-chuen on board a foreign ship; I had no desire to go, and was taken back to the (China) ship. On the 8th, mandarin soldiers came and took me up for examination. I have never committed any offence.

No. 32. Lih-chih deposes:—I am aged 32, from the Chieh-yang district. On the 2nd day of the 10th month I met, at Shih-lung, an acquaintance named Seen-a-tê, who stated that a younger brother of his was a shopkeeper at Chang-chow, and he persuaded me to go thither to seek employ; I consented, and went with him in a boat. On the 4th we reached Chang-chow, where Seen-a-tê, taking a sampan, put me on board a coolie-vessel, where I was kept in confinement. Before being sold, I was seized and set at liberty.

A true statement.

No. 33. Chen-sz deposes:—Am from the Kwei-shan district, aged 26, a vendor of medicines by trade. On the 16th of the 2nd month I obtained employment on board a salt-junk belonging to Chen-a-chang. The vessel was wrecked in a gale, on the 25th of the 8th month, off San-tao-tang; and, on the 3rd of the 10th month, I came to the city with two men, named Lai-a-ming and Yeh-a-fu, to buy sails and rope. On the 5th, we hired a boat on the Canton river to return to Shih-kang, when a man from Tung-kwan, on board a kidnapper's vessel, seized us all, and took us on board a foreign ship. The foreigners bought Lai-a-ming and Yeh-a-fu, but, on finding my feet sore, would not have me. I was sent back on board the kidnapper's boat, where I was seized.

A true statement.

No. 34. Yeh-sin deposes:—Am from the Tung-kwan district, 30 years of age, a shopkeeper. On the 23rd of the 8th month I met an acquaintance named Hung-a-yeo at Shih-lung, who decoyed me to the city to look for employment. On the 28th we came to the city in a boat. At Canton he hired a sampan, which took us to Chang-chow on the 26th, where he took me on board a foreign vessel. The foreigners, seeing that my feet were sore, rejected me; when Hung-a-yeo took me back to the kidnappers' boat, where I was afterwards seized.

A true statement.

No. 35. Li-hsi deposes:—Am from the Hai-feong district, aged 38, a porter (coolie) by trade. On the 1st of the 8th month an acquaintance, Lio-a-shih by name, decoyed me to the city to enlist as a brave. After reaching Canton, he hired a boat on the 5th, and took me, on the 7th, to Chang-chow; he then took me on board a junk, where I remained two days, after which he took me on board a kidnapper's vessel; here I saw a man jump overboard, who was drowned. Afterwards I was seized and set at liberty.

A true statement.

No. 36. Chou-lio deposes:—Am a shoemaker, from the Kai-ping district, aged 25. On the 28th of the 9th month an acquaintance named Wu-a-fa falsely told me he was going to the city to seek employment. Suspecting nothing, I went with him in a boat, on the 1st of the 10th month. On the 4th we arrived at Chang-chow, where I was taken on board a kidnapper's vessel, and put in confinement. Afterwards I was seized and set at liberty.

A true statement.

No. 37. Lih-luh states:—I am 14 years old, and belong to the village of

Chin, in the Shun-tih district, and have lately lived in No. 10 Ward of the Western Suburbs. On the 5th of the 9th moon, I met a man whom I knew by the name of Ah-fuh. I do not know his surname. He asked me to go with him to Chur-pei, a village in the Pwanyu district, where he said there was going to be a theatrical performance. I, misled by him, was taken instead to Chang-chow to be sold to foreigners: but when the foreigners saw my tender age, they would not have me, but returned me to A-fuh, on board whose boat I remained till I was taken by the military and brought here for examination.

This is true.

No. 38. Yu-leang states:—I am 25, and belong to the Tung-kwan district. On the 4th of the 5th moon I was in the Ching-kwang-meao when I first met Tai-ah-shing, the man who kidnapped me. I went with him on board a boat to get a meal, little thinking, as I entered the boat, that he would, as he did, unmoor the boat and go to Chang-chow. At Chang-chow he took me to sell to the foreigners. On my resisting he took a club and struck me at random. I then, finding I had no resource, went with him to the foreigners; but when they saw the marks of the blows on my body, they refused to take me, and I remained on board the boat till the soldiers came who were charged to examine.

This is true.

39. Chin-tung states:—I am of the Ching-hae district, in the Prefecture of Chao-chou, and am 34 years of age. On the 2nd of the 10th moon I met an acquaintance named Li-ah-ke at Kwei-shen, who induced me to go to Canton to get my foot healed, saying there was a good doctor there who would cure it gratis. I was misled by his speech, and went with him, without thinking, instead to Chang-chow, and, on the 3rd, went into a boat with him and showed him my sore foot, which prevented him from selling me at once. On board this boat, which was anchored there, were two other men like me to be sold, named Leang-che-tung and Le-ah-luh, and, besides the kidnappers, there was a doctor named Yu-chang, a man from the Po-lo district. There I was when the soldiers came and took us all in charge to bring hither.

This is true.

No. 40. Woo-kun states:—I am 34, and belong to the Pwanyu district, and am a flower-seller by trade. On the 7th of the present moon I had laid in a stock of moh-li flowers, &c., came to Canton in my little boat, and had sold them and was returning, when, just by the Tung-hwan Hill, on the main river, I met with the men who seized me, Ho-ching, Seu-kwei, and five others, who were in a fast boat. They ran against mine, and, calling out "This is an old enemy," seized hold of me and dragged me into their boat, and proceeded to Chang-chow with the intention of selling me to foreigners. On the following morning, however, the soldiers who were sent to inspect took us in charge.

This is true.

No. 41. Tsung-jung states:—I belong to the Pwanyu district, and am 29 years old, and am owner of the Hih-ho mat-shop by the East Gate. On the 6th of the present moon, I met Soo-shih and Chin-ah-urh, who deceived me by saying that a mat-shade was wanted for a floating bridge at Urh-sha-wei, and I, misled by their talk, desired the job, and went with them, on the 6th, to Urh-sha-wei, where we fell in with four men in a boat, who accused me of stealing fruit belonging to them, and pulled me into the boat, saying they were going to give me in charge to the constable. I little thought they were going to take me to Chang-chow; first putting me into a scrambling crab boat, and afterwards into a tanka boat. In the tanka boat I found a man who had been before brought off, named Yeh-shing. We were afterwards joined by Ho-ching, who pulled the boat, and who told me openly that he had paid several dollars for me, and that I must now go to a foreign country to work. Soon after, Yeh-shing and myself were taken in charge by the soldiers who were sent on the business, and were brought by them here.

This is true.

Inclosure 20 in No. 6.

Depositions or Confessions of Twenty-three Kidnappers.

CHIN-CHANG-SHIN states:—I am 29 years of age, and belong to Pae-wei village, in the district of Polo. My father is dead. My mother, Chang-she, is 57 years old. She has three sons, of whom I am the eldest. I have neither wife nor child. Hitherto I have exercised the trade of pewterer at home. Through losing all my money by gambling, and knowing Tae-ah-shin, a coolie-broker at Chang-chow, I, on the 29th October, kidnapped my cousin Ah-urh, who lived with me, to sell him, in order to get money to spend, by telling him that I had employment for him on board ship; thus getting him, of his own accord, to accompany me on board a Hwei-chow passage-boat going to Canton. On the 31st, off Chang-chow, a small boat came alongside, pulled by Tae-ah-shin, which took us two, Chin-ah-urh and myself, to a fishing-boat; whence Tae-ah-shin took Chin-ah-urh for fifteen dollars, which he gave me. By chance, the neighbouring boat had a gambling-table in it, and there I gambled away all the fifteen dollars. Tae-ah-shin then said to the coolie-broker, "He wants some more dollars to spend, and he will, if you give them him, bring you more coolies, and you can then repay yourself." I was waiting in the boat for the dollars when, early on the morning of the 2nd, the soldiers came and arrested me, and brought me hither.

A true statement.

Ho-yew states:—I am 29 years of age, and belong to Shwuy-kiao village, in Tung-kwan district. My father is dead. My mother, Hwang-she, is 56 years of age. I have no brothers. My wife is dead; she died childless. I have in general been employed on board Ho-a-ching's cargo boat. On the 31st October, when in Tung-kwan district, the idea came into my head of kidnapping an acquaintance of mine, Chang-ah-sai, belonging to Hwang village, in that district, and I offered him work on board a fishing-boat, engaging to give him thirteen dollars a-year for seven years, at the expiration of which time he should return home. Chang-ah-sai expressed his willingness to go with me, and I gave him two dollars. On the same day we embarked in a Shih-lung passage-boat for Canton. As we were passing Chang-chow, I hailed a sampan, which took us to the coolie-boat of Yung-ah-tsin, where I sold Chang-ah-sai for thirteen dollars, telling him at the time that he was to be taken to the fishing-boat. I was just about to return home, when I was arrested. This is the first time I have kidnapped and sold a man as a coolie. I have never been brought up before for any crime.

A true statement.

(November 4.)

Sing-woo states:—I am 28 years of age, and belong to Kwei-shen district. I live at home, and practise surgery to gain my living. I was acquainted with Chang-ah-urh; and through his telling me that twenty or thirty dollars could easily be gained by kidnapping, and that he knew a Tung-kwan man, called "Pock-marked Yao," who kept a sugar-boat at Chang-chow, and who was intimate with the coolie-brokers, I was persuaded to join him, on the 4th of the 8th moon, in kidnapping, at the town of Polo, a man named Chang-ah-che. Him Pock-marked Yao took, and sold to the coolie-brokers, and gave us twelve dollars, which Chang-ah-urh and myself divided. Again, on the 27th of the 9th moon, I by myself, in the town of Polo, kidnapped Chin-ah-yao. and gave him to Pock-marked Yao, from whom I received twenty dollars. I had gone to the sugar-boat to live at ease for awhile, when, on the 2nd November, the soldiers arrested me and brought me hither.

This is a true statement.

(November 4, 1859.)

Hwang-ah-too states:—I am 36 years of age, and belong to the Lung-mun district. I was employed by Hwang-ya-li, who keeps a doctor's shop at the market of Sha-ling, to work in the shop. Being discharged from this, I did not know what to do for a livelihood; so, on the 29th October, at the market to Lung-hwa, in the Lung-mun district, I spoke to two acquaintances. mmed

Li-a-kwei and Li-ah-sze, and deceived them into going with me, by telling them I had a friend and relation at Canton who kept a shop, and was in want of assistants, and that he would pay them well. They, believing my words, went with me to the market at Sha-king, where we entered a boat kept by Ne-ah-fuh, a man whom I had known before, and to whom I had mentioned about selling Li-a-kwei and his companion, and had agreed to divide the money with him if he would take his part in the trouble; and we the same day started, and reached Chang-chow on November 1. Ne-ah-fuh and myself sold the two men to Leao-ah-keang for twenty-eight dollars, which we divided equally. This is the first time I have been engaged in kidnapping. I have never been brought up before for any offence. When I was arrested, Ne-ah-fuh threw himself overboard; I do not know whither he has gone.

This is a true statement.

(November 4.)

Pan-san states:—I am 29 years of age, and belong to Hing-ning district. I am a seller of spectacles. I was acquainted with Chin-ah-sew, who is intimate with the coolie brokers, and because I was unsuccessful in my trade, on the 3rd of the 8th moon, in the Tsêng-ching district, I kidnapped Chang-ah-urh, and took him to Chang-chow, and there delivered him to Chin-ah-sew for fifteen dollars. Again, on the 2nd of the 9th moon, at the market at Ta-kang, in the Tsang-ching district, I kidnapped another man, named Lin-ah-san, whom I also delivered to Chin-ah-sew, selling him for fifteen dollars. Again, on the 1st of November, in the market of Ching-kwo, in the Tsang-ching district, I kidnapped another man, named Pan-ah-woo, whom I also delivered to Chin-ah-sew, who went and sold him for fifteen dollars. On the 8th (2nd November) the soldiers arrested me.

This is a true statement.

(November 4.)

Chin-ah-sew, alias Chin-ah-seu, states:—I am 44 years of age, and belong to the Sin-ning district. On the 1st of the 8th moon of the present year, I connived with Seu-ah-hing to kidnap a man named A-che (I do not know what his family name was), and with Seu-ah-hing took him to Macao, and sold him there for twenty dollars, of which Seu-ah-hing gave me six dollars for my share. Again, on the 7th of the same moon, there came to my boat a Sin-ning man named Hwang-ah-neu, who had kidnapped a man named Tseen-ah-tee. Him Seu-ah-hing and myself took to Macao, and sold there for thirty dollars, which we three, Seu-ah-hing, Hwang-ah-neu, and myself shared equally. On the 17th of the 8th moon I returned to Sin-ning, and with a man belonging to the village of Pwan, came to Canton, and on the 20th went on board a hakow-boat. On the 21st, with Seu-ah-hing, I took this man to Macao and sold him for thirty dollars, of which I gave Seu-ah-hing ten dollars. On the 17th of the 9th moon, having spent this, a man named Seu-ah-lung with a man called Suh-ah-hseen, whom he had kidnapped, Seu-ah-hing and myself took to Macoa. We sold the man for twenty dollars, of which I got six dollars, Seu-ah-hing six dollars, and Seu-ah-lung ten dollars. On my former examination, I confessed to two cases of kidnapping and selling men; now that I have confessed to four fresh ones, there are six in which I have been engaged. I have never been brought up for any other offence.

This is a true statement.

(November 4.)

Si-ah-tau states:—I am 26 years of age, and belong to Heang-shan district. I am a poor man without a trade, and I find it difficult to keep life in me. On the 3rd of last moon, at the town of Heang-shan, I kidnapped two men named Chin-a-tung and Chin-ah-kew, by saying I had work for them on board a fishing-boat, and on the same day hired a sampan to take us to Canton. At Chang-chow, however, I took the two men on board Wang-ah-fuh the coolie broker's boat, and sold them to him for twelve dollars a head, but as Chin-ah-tung was sick, I did not get the money for him at the time, and I agreed to remain on board the boat and attend on him till he recovered, when I was to receive the money. On the 2nd of November a patrol-boat came to arrest us.

Wang-ah-fuh escaped by jumping overboard. I was taken. This is the first time I have kidnapped and sold men as coolies.

This is a true statement.

(November 4.)

Ho-ching states:—I am 24 years of age, and am one of the boat people belonging to Tan-poo, in the Hwa district. I gain my living by pulling about in a boat for hire. On the 14th of the 6th moon I had passengers in my boat, which I was pnlling to Chin-tsun, when the thought came into my head of kidnapping men and selling them as coolies, as a means of gaining money. And acting on it when in a place called Tin-hen, in Chin-tsun, I saw Le-a-shun eating there in the street; I addressed him, asking him to come with me to work on board a large fishing-boat, and offering four dollars a month. He readily consented, and I took him to Chang-chow, and sold him on board a hakow boat for twelve dollars, which I spent. Again, on the 10th of the 7th moon, at Ne-ching, (just outside the North Gate of) Canton, I met with an acquaintance, Hwang-a-yew, who said he was out of employment. I then enticed him into going with me, by saying I could give him employment on board a hakow boat at four dollars a month, and I took him and sold him as a coolie to Ling-ah-urh, on board a hakow boat, for twelve dollars, which I spent. Again, on the 1st of November in the morning, in Great Tung-tih-street, (in the West Suburb of) Canton, I fell in with Yeh-shing, who is now in your charge, and who keeps a boat for trading in paddy; I deceived him, saying, if he would come with me I could give him employment, and I took him to Chang-chow, and went with him on board a ha-kow boat to sell him. I left him there, but did not then receive any money. I returned the same day to Fung-wang-kang to consult with Hwang-yun-yew, Wang-ah-tsew, Lo-ah-teen, and two men whom Lo-ah-teen had called, but whose names I do not kuow, about going together in a fast boat, and seizing men in Fung-wang-kang, and carrying them off to sell as coolies. as a means of getting money for us all, and the same day in the evening, when in this fast boat, we happened to meet a sampan with six passengers in it. We ran alongside, seized hold of it, and pulling out our knives, rushed on board and carried off two of the passengers, one of whom is named Woo-ken; the name of the other I do not know. They are both in your custody. Then we made off, and about midnight reached Chang-chow, and took the two men we had captured on board a hakow boat, agreeing to receive the money for them the next morning. The next morning, however, the mandarin soldiers surprised us and arrested me, Yeh-shing, and Woo-ken, and brought us hither. I declare I have been concerned in only these four cases of kidnapping.

This is a true statement.

Li-che states:—I am 31 years of age, and belong to Kin-hia village, by the Bogue, in Tung-kwan district. My father, Suy-ke, is 66 years of age; my mother, Wan-she, is 56. Of six brothers I am the second. The eldest is named Ah-tung, the third, A-ping, the fourth, A-shi, the fifth, A-hai. My wife, A-tsee, has borne to me a son and a daughter. I am a discharged brave, and no man having hired me, on the 17th of the 9th month the man who is now in charge, Li-sze, of Chang-lo district, spoke openly to me, asking me to go with him in a scrambling crab boat, and join him in managing the boat, with the purpose of catching and selling men for coolies. I readily consented, and went with him to Whampoa, and to Chang-chow, on the main river. On board the boat there were, besides three men, the cook, A-sze, A-luh, and A-kew, who were all employed on board. On the 4th of the present month, we were engaged by Yeh-ah-urh, who came on board with a man he had kidnapped, named Li-ah-chuen, whom I and Li-sze took on board a fishing boat, and sold for thirty dollars. Yeh-ah-urh received twenty dollars. I and Li-sz each had five dollars. Again, on the 5th, we were engaged by a man named Chin-asz, who had with him a Hwei-chow man named Chin-a-san, to sell as a coolie. Him, I and Li-sze took to the fishing boat, and sold for thirty dollars. Chin-asz received twenty dollars, I and Li-sze each had five dollars. On the 6th, there was Chin-a-kwei, who brought with him a Lung-mun man, to sell as a coolie, named Le-a-shing, came on board. I and Li-sze took him on board the fishing boat, and sold him for sixteen dollars, and which Ching-ah-

kwei, Li-sze, and myself, divided equally. Again, on the 5th, Woo-leen-yew, a man from Tung-kwan district, brought Hwang-leang, who is now in your charge, with the intention of selling him as a coolie. I and Li-sze took him on the 6th and on the 7th on board the fishing boat. The foreigners saw him, but were unwilling to buy him; so we took him back on board our boat, and shut him up below, when, unexpectedly, the mandarin soldiers came to arrest us all, and brought me and Li-sze up here. I have been engaged in selling men as coolies four times, in one of which the transaction was not completed. I have never been accused of any other crime.

This is a true statement.

(10th moon, 10th day.)

Le-sun affirms:—I am 38 years old, and am a native of Wang-nin-tun, in the district of Tung-wan. My parents are both dead, and I have no brothers, wife, or children. When at home I gain my living by agriculture. On the 12th of the 8th month of the present year, at a place called Ta-fan, in the district of Tung-kwan, I kidnapped a man named Fu-a-hsi, 18 years of age, and went to Whampoa to hand him over to an acquaintance of mine, a coolie broker named Tsung-a-yew, for transfer sale. Tsung-a-yew gave me 8 dollars. Until the 2nd of the 10th month, I kept the Lo-man-tsz mud-boat which has been taken. The two men, Lun-chi and Wang-yuen, who have been taken, used to work the boat with me, and go to different places seeking for occupation. I little thought that on the 7th day, when the boat went to Whampoa, it would be captured by mandarin soldiers for the purpose of judicial examination (yet such was the case). Fu-a-hsi is the only person I ever sold.

This is a true statement. I ask for mercy.

Lo-a-weh affirms:—On the 15th day of the 9th month, at a place called She-tu, in the district of Tung-kwan, I kidnapped a friend named Chang-fu. On the 8th I took passage in a boat and went to Whampoa to sell him on board a ship to a coolie broker named Chen-fu. I got 10 dollars. Again, on the 25th of the 9th month, in the village of Tang-hsia, in the district of Tung-kwan, I kidnapped a friend named Hwang-yung. On the 28th I took passage with him and went to Whampoa, where I sold him on board a ship to Yang-a-shen. I got 10 dollars. I little expected that mandarin soldiers would seize me and bring me up for examination (yet such was the case). Altogether I have but kidnapped and sold two men. I have spent all the money I obtained. Beyond this I have committed no other offence.

A true statement.

Keang-hung-tsing affirms:—I had an old friend, whose surname I don't know. He is called Achen. He lived on board a hsia-kow boat at Whampoa, and bought coolies for the purpose of selling them for transportation. On the 1st of the 10th month of the present year I met an old friend in the street outside the Great South Gate (of Canton). His name is Ho-a-leu, and it occurred to me that I would kidnap him. I told him that I would recommend him on board the hsia-kow boat for work, where he would receive 6 dollars each month. Ho-a-leu readily consented, and I went with him outside the Wu-hsien Gate and hired a little boat to go to Whampoa. There I sold him to the aforesaid Achen, whose surname I don't know, on board the hsia-kow boat, getting 6 dollars. Inasmuch as Achen was a friend of mine, I stayed several days on board his ship. I never thought that on the 8th the mandarin soldiers would seize me and bring me up to examination (yet such was the case). I have kidnapped and sold a man but once, and but once got money.

A true statement.

Le-hsien-tsing affirms:—On the 4th of the 10th month of the present year, in the district of Tung-kwan, I met a friend named Hwang-a-pau, and on the same day hired a boat and went to Whampoa, where I sold him on board a hsia-kow boat, whose name I don't know, and got 12 dollars, which I have spent. Again on the 24th of the 8th month, in the same district of Tung-kwan, I kidnapped Cheng-a-ling, and sold him on board the same ship, and again got 12 dollars. I little thought that on the 8th the mandarin soldiers would come and seize me for examination. I have, indeed, kidnapped but two men, and

have spent all the money I got. I have certainly kidnapped none besides, and have offended in no other way. I have no confederates.

A true statement.

Yen-a-tsai affirms:—On the 3rd of the 9th month of the present year, at Wan-shang, in the district of Sin-gan, I kidnapped a friend named Yu-a-sz. On the 6th I hired a fishing-boat and went with him to Whampoa, where I sold him on board ship to Tai-a-shen, the coolie broker, and got 20 dollars, which I have spent. On the 3rd of the 10th month, in the same Wan-shang locality, I kidnapped a friend named Ho-a-yuen, taking him on the 5th to Whampoa and selling him to the same Tai-a-shen, who gave 18 dollars. I did not expect that early on the 8th mandarin soldiers would come and arrest me. I have, indeed, kidnapped but two people. I have spent all the money I received. Beyond these I certainly have kidnapped no one, and have in no otherwise offended. I have no confederates.

A true statement.

Le-sz affirms:—I am a native of Chang-lo district. My father is dead; my mother's name is Hseay-shih, and she is 74 years old. I have no brother. My wife's name is Chung-shih; I have no children. I gain my living by agriculture. On the 17th of the 9th month of the present year, I bought a hsia-kow boat. The man Le-che, who was taken prisoner with me, was partner in working the boat. We two determined to seek men out to kidnap, and sell them for coolies. I also hired associates named A-hsi, A-leu, and A-chin (I don't know their surnames), to work in the ship. On the 4th of the present month a visitor named Yeh-a-weh brought a coolie named Le-a-chuen to the ship. I and Le-che took him to the coolie-broker's dwelling, and sold him for 30 dollars. Yeh-a-weh got 20, Le-che 5, and I myself 5. On the 5th of the present month a visitor named Chen-a-sz brought a coolie named Chun-a-san to the ship, and Le-che and myself took him and sold him for 30 dollars; Chen-a-sz getting 20, Le-che and myself 5 each. Again, on the 6th, Chen-a-kwei brought a coolie named Lu-a-shen to the ship. I and Le-che took him and sold him for 16 dollars. We divided this equally among us. Again, on the 5th of the present month, Wu-leen-wu brought a coolie named Hwang-leang to the ship. I and Le-che took him to the coolie-broker for inspection, but he would not have him; I thereupon took him back, and shut him up in the ship's hold. On the 8th the mandarin soldiers came and seized us; the three hired associates ran away. I and Le-che have only kidnapped and sold three coolies, getting money for them, which we divided; the sale of one was never effected.

A true statement.

Su-a-tae affirms:—I am 31 years old, a native of the Pan-yu district. On the 8th of the 5th month of the present year I had a conversation with two men, named A-fa and A-kau, in the hwa-lin-sz of Hsi-wan (I don't know their surnames). To tempt them, I told them there was, at Whampoa, a coolie-broker who wanted workmen on his ship, and that the wages were very good. The two men immediately consented to go there. I went with them to the Sin-meau at Honan, where I hired a small boat and went to Whampoa; I there sold them to a coolie-broker named Tsan-yeu (I don't know his surname), on his ship, getting 24 dollars. Again, on the 6th of the 10th month, in the Sin-meau at Honan I enticed two acquaintances, Chang-a-chin and Wang-a-chien, by telling them there was a man looking for workmen. They consented to go with me; and, on the same day, I went with them to Whampoa river, and sold them, on shipboard, to Tsan-yin, getting 30 dollars. Up to the day on which I was captured by the soldiers, I sold coolies but twice.

A true statement.

Tung-tse deposes:—Am 30 years of age, from San-chiang-sz, in Tseng-cheng district; a small shopkeeper by trade. My father is dead; my mother, whose family name is Mao, is 58 years of age. I have neither brothers, wife, nor children. Being in great poverty, and scarcely able to earn a livelihood, on the 10th of the 4th month I, of my own accord, formed the resolve of sooner or later decoying, at Shih-lung, the ten men named Li-a-hao, Liang-a-sz, Li-a-

sheng, Yao-a-tung, Li-a-hao, Liang-a-pa, Chu-a-kai, Chu-a-pi, Chung-a-pao, Ho-a-sz, to whom I lied, saying I would take them on board a large vessel to get employment. On the same day I hired a small boat at Tung-kwan, on board which I put Li-a-hao and the others. and set off. On the 12th we reached Chang-chow, where I sold Li-a-hao and the others on board the vessel of a coolie-broker, whose name I do not know, which was anchored there. I received 12 dollars for each man, 120 dollars in all, which sum I have spent.

Later, on the 14th day of the 7th month, I went on board the vessel belonging to Liang-a-pao, the coolie broker, as a sailor, at 6 dollars per month. The said Liang-a-pao's coolie vessel was anchored off Chang-chow.

Unexpectedly, on the morning of the 8th instant, a police-boat came alongside, and a descent was made on the vessel. Liang-a-pao and the others jumped overboard and escaped, but I was apprehended and brought up for examination. I declare that I have only once been guilty of kidnapping, and have never been accused of crime before.

(Deposition taken the 10th day of the 10th month.)

Tang-kang deposes:—I am aged 24; a labourer, from Ho-tien, in the Tung-kwan district. My father is dead; my mother's family name is Hwang, her age 72. I have no brothers, wife, nor children. On the 12th of the 9th month, in the current year, I went to the town of Tung-kwan, where I met a man named Li-a-hwa, who told me, while we were sitting down and chatting together, that he was out of employ. I replied that business was brisk at Chang-chow, and that work might be had; soon after which I accompanied Li-a-hwa to Chang-chow, where I sold him on board Hu-a-yeo's coolie vessel for twenty dollars. I had been acquainted with Hu-a-yeo since the 8th month.

Again, on the 2nd of the 10th month, I went into the town of Tung-kwan, and met an acquaintance named Chang-a-te in the Yen-pu Street, where he kept a stall. I enticed him by saying that gambling was a very lucrative business at Chang-chow, when he expressed his willingness to accompany me thither. I thereupon took Chang-a-te, hired a small boat, and went on board Yeh-a-sin's gambling-boat, at Chang-chow. Yeh-a-sin paid me ten dollars, and gave Chang-a-te himself ten dollars head-money, on the agreement that this money was to be gambled with. If Chang-a-te won, he was to pay Yeh-a-sin 100 cash profit for every dollar; if he lost, he was to become a coolie. Chang-a-te consented to this, risked his money, and lost. He was then put in confinement by Yeh-a-sin, in order that he might be sold.

That evening I went on board Hu-a-yeo's boat to pass the night. In the morning of the 8th a guard of soldiers came to make a search and seize offenders. Yeh-a-sin and Chang-a-te escaped. I only was taken and brought up for examination.

Now, honoured by a trial, I declare that I have only twice been concerned in kidnapping coolies, and have never been accused of any other offence.

Deposition taken the 10th of the 10th month (5th November, 1859).

Li-chin deposes:—On the 16th of the 9th month met Yü-a-chang, a kidnapper not yet apprehended, who has hitherto been a coolie-broker at Chang-chow. He induced me to go on board his vessel, in the capacity of clerk, at a salary of 12 dollars per month. I agreed to his proposals and went on board. Another kidnapper, still at large, named Hwang-chin, together with some men with whose surnames I am unacquainted, named A-ming, Wu-ya-chên, A-ching, A-shêng, decoyed, at different times, the four men named Liang-chi-têng, Li-ngan, Chêng-a-tung, and Li-lio, on board, together with upwards of twenty others whose names and surnames I do not remember. These were sold off in succession by the coolie-broker, and carried away in a large sea-going vessel.

I was afterwards seized and carried off for judicial examination. I declare that on this occasion, my only idea was to exercise my profession as a clerk on board the coolie-vessel.

All further statements are clearly put in my previous deposition.

The following are additional particulars:—Yü-a-shan is a Tung-kwan man, upwards of 30 years of age. A-ming is upwards of 30; from what district I am not aware. Hwang-chin-yeo is a Tung-kwan man, upwards of 30. Wu-ya-chên is upwards of 30; I do not know from what district. A-ching is upwards

of 20; I do not know from what district. A-shên is upwards of 30; from what district I am unaware.

A true statement.

(Deposition taken the 11th of the 10th month.)

Yü-chang deposes:—Am aged 25; from Tieh-chiang, in the Po-lo district. My father is dead; my mother, whose family name is Chü, is aged 52. I have two brothers, and am the second son. Am married; my wife's family name is Chü. I have no children. I was formerly a herbalist and practitioner in cutaneous diseases in Shih-lung, in the Tung-kwan district, in the Hsin-chieh street. On the 26th of the 9th month, it occurred to me to impose on an acquaintance in Shih-lung, named Chou-a-chi, with the statement that hands were wanted on board a sea-going vessel at Chang-chow, at 4 dollars per month. Chou-a-chi agreed to go, whereupon I took him to Chang-chow and sold him for 20 dollars on board the vessel owned by a man named Yu-a-hsiang and another, named A-chêng, whose family name I do not know.

At another time, on the 1st of the 10th month, I used the same pretences at Shih-wan, to decoy a man named Hwang-a-sz, whom I took to Chang-chow to sell to Yü-a-hsiang and his accomplices. This time I sold the man for 15 dollars.

Yü-a-hsiang having no money in hand, I waited for my pay on board his vessel. Afterwards, a man, already brought up for examination, named Liang-chi-teng, was decoyed on board by some one else, and, seeing that he was troubled with ulcers, I gave him medicines.

Suddenly, on the 8th, I was seized by a guard of soldiers, together with Liang-chi-têng, and brought up for trial. Yü-a-hsiang and the others escaped.

Being now honoured by an examination, I confess to having twice been guilty of kidnapping. With these exceptions, I have never been accused of crime.

(Deposition taken the 10th of the 10th month.)

Lao-ying-hwa deposes:—I am aged 22; from Tung-men, in the Tung-kwan district. My father is dead; my mother is still alive, aged 62; her family name is Chou. I have two brothers; the elder is named A-yin. Not yet married. I worked at Tung-men, in the Yang-ma Street, at the cracker manufactory known as the Liang-feng shop.

On the 28th of the 9th month, I succeeded in decoying Chen-a-sung, upwards of twenty years of age, in the Hsien-yu street at Hwei-chou, whom I took to the Hsin temple in Shih-lung, when I delivered him to a coolie-broker, named Yeh-lien-yeo. The said Yeh-lien-yeo gave me four dollars.

Afterwards, on the 2nd of the 10th month, I engaged myself to serve on board the vessel belonging to a man named Li-a-shan, a coolie-broker of Chang-chow, at two dollars per month.

On the 8th I was suddenly seized by a party of soldiers and braves; and now, honoured by an examination, I make a truthful deposition.

I decoyed no other beside Chen-a-sung, nor have I ever been accused of crime before.

A true statement. I beg for mercy.

(Deposition taken, 10th month, 11th day.)

Liang-tai-yeo deposes:—On the night of the 29th of the 9th month I was at Macao, and succeeded in decoying an acquaintance named Lia-hsien. On the 2nd of the 10th month I hired a fish-dealer's boat, and accompanied him to Chang-chow, to sell on board the vessel belonging to the coolie-broker named Tai-a-shen. I received six dollars for the man.

Furthermore, on the 12th of the 9th month, I was at Macao, in Hsiang-shan, and decoyed an acquaintance named Hwang-a-kwei, whom I took on board a pedlar's boat from Macao to Chang-chow, and sold, as before, to Tai-a-shen for sixteen dollars.

At another time, on the 4th of the 10th month, I decoyed, at Hong Kong, an acquaintance named Li-a-chio, whom I took in a fish-dealer's boat and sold, as before, at Chang-chow, to Tai-a-shen, the coolie-broker, for the sum of twelve dollars.

On the morning of the 8th, I was suddenly seized by a guard of soldiers, and carried up for examination.

I confess to the kidnapping of the three men, at three different times. The money received for them I have spent. Besides this case, I have never been apprehended for the commission of crime. I have no knowledge of other matters (of the same kind), nor have ever been implicated with others in cases of forcible detention.

A true statement.

(Deposition taken, 10th month, 11th day.)

Lieh-kwei deposes:—I confess to having decoyed, on the 26th (of the 9th month?) in the present year, at Yung-chin in Lung-men, the man named Su-a-fu, aged 32, whom I took to Shih-tang-tsu in the Tseng-cheng district, to sell to Wu-a-chwan, a coolie-broker, receiving four dollars for him. I am assuredly not aware to what place Su-a-fu was taken by Wu-a-chwan, for sale. I declare that the kidnapping of Su-a-fu is the only offence of the kind I have been guilty of; nor have I ever been apprehended before for kidnapping.

My deposition of the circumstance is correct.

On the 7th instant, I went out with a load of wood for sale, when I was seized on board the wood-boat by a party of soldiers and braves, and brought up for examination.

I beg for mercy.

Deposition taken on the 11th of the 10th month (5th November, 1859).

Tung-tsê deposes:—Am 30 years of age, from San-chiang-sz in Tseng-cheng district, a small shopkeeper by trade. My father is dead; my mother, whose family name is Mao, is 58 years of age. I have neither brothers, wife, nor children. Being in great poverty, and scarcely able to earn a livelihood, on the 10th of the 4th month I of my own accord formed the resolve of sooner or later decoying at Shih-lung the ten men named, Li a-hao, Liang-a-sz, Li-a-shêng, Li-a-hao, Liang-a-pa, Chu-a-kai, Chu-a-pi, Chuug-a-pao, Ho-a-sz; to whom I lied, saying I would take them on board a large vessel to get employment. On the same day I hired a small boat at Tung-kwan, on board which I put Li-a-hao and the others, and set off. On the 12th we reached Chang-chow, where I sold Li-a-hao and the others, on board the vessel of a coolie broker whose name I do not know, which was anchored there. I received 12 dollars for each man, 120 dollars in all, which sum I have spent. Later on the 14th of the 7th month, I went on board the vessel belonging to Liang-a-pao, the coolie broker, as a sailor at 6 dollars per month. The said Liang-a-pao's coolie vessel was anchored off Chang-chow. Unexpectedly on the morning of the 8th instant, a police boat came alongside, and a descent was made on the vessel. Liang-a-pao and the others jumped overboard and escaped, but I was apprehended and brought up for examination. I declare that I have only once been guilty of kidnapping, and have never been accused of crime before.

(Deposition taken the 10th of the 10th month.)

Fang-kang deposes:—I am aged 24, a labourer from Ho-tien in the Tung-kwan district. My father is dead; my mother's family name is Hwang, her age 72. I have no brothers, wife, nor children. On the 12th of the 9th month in the current year I went to the town of Tung-kwan, where I met a man named Li-a-hwa, who told me while we were sitting down and chatting together, that he was out of employ. I replied that business was brisk at Chang-chow, and that work might be had. Soon after which I accompanied Li-a-hwa to Chang-chow, where I sold him on board Hu-a-yeo's coolie vesself or 20 dollars. I had been acquainted with Hu-a-yeo since the 8th month. Again on the 2nd of the 10th, I went into the town of Tung-kwan and met an acquaintance named Chang-a-te, in the Tu-pu Street, where he kept a stall. I enticed him by saying that gambling was a very lucrative business at Chang-chow, when he expressed his willingness to accompany me thither. I thereupon took Chang-a-te, hired a small boat and went on board Yeh-a-sin's gambling-boat at Chang-chow. Yeh-a-sin paid me 10 dollars, and gave Cheng-a-te himself 10 dollars head-money, on the agreement that this money was to be gambled with. If Chang-a-te won he was to pay Yeh-a-sin 100 cash profit for every dollar; if he lost, he was to become a coolie. Chang-a-te consented to this, risked his money and

lost. He was then put in confinement by Yeh-a-sin, in order that he might be sold. That evening I went on board Hu-a-yeo's boat to pass the night. In the morning of the 8th a guard of soldiers came to make search and seized offenders. Yeh-a-sin and Chang-a-te escaped; I only was taken, and brought up for examination.

Now, honoured by an examination, I declare that I have only twice been concerned in kidnapping coolies, and have never been accused of any other offence.

Depositions taken the 11th of the 10th month (November 5, 1859).

No. 7.

Mr. Parkes to Mr. Hammond.—(Received January 13, 1860.)

Sir, *Canton, November 28, 1859.*

AS a sequel to the letter which I had the honour to address you on the 13th instant, I now beg to forward copies of two other despatches (with their inclosures) in which I have reported to his Excellency the Honourable Mr. Bruce that the system of Chinese emigration to the British West Indies, which had received the full sanction and support of the Chinese Provincial Government, is now in active operation at Canton.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HARRY S. PARKES.

Inclosure 1 in No. 7.

Mr. Parkes to Mr. Bruce.

Sir, *Canton, November 15, 1859.*

IN continuation of my despatch of the 10th instant, I have now the honour to add, that the emigration to the British West Indies, conducted upon the system then reported as having just been established, is now in active operation. Directly that the establishment was declared to be open, applicants began to offer themselves at the Emigration House, and Mr. Sampson, the Local Agent, has stated to me to-day that he is now almost incommoded by the number of Chinese who flock into the premises, and that although numbers of these come from idle or inquisitive motives only, while many others are not encouraged, because seen to be unsuitable for the purpose for which they are required, he has already registered fifty-one men as labourers, whom he thinks will be approved by Mr. Austin.

I attribute this success to the hearty co-operation which I have received, and continue to receive, from both the Chinese authorities and gentry, and to the efforts made to disseminate as widely as possible the principles, regulations, and conditions, under which Mr. Austin's emigration is conducted, and to help the people to discern the difference between an emigration thus regulated, and the coolie traffic as carried on at Whampoa and elsewhere.

The translations of two notes which I have received from his Excellency Laou on the 12th and 14th instant will serve to convey to your Excellency some idea of the friendly and effective character of these joint exertions; and I have this afternoon arranged with his Excellency for the despatch of several officers into various parts of the country in the immediate vicinity of Canton, in company with agents of my own, for the express purpose of assembling the elders of the various villages, and the gentry of the towns, and explaining to them the advantages offered by Mr. Austin for the emigration of families.

The Admiral of the Province, who visited Canton a few days ago, undertook to distribute in the maritime districts 100 copies of Mr. Austin's Notices; and the Prefect of Canton, who left this morning for the northern districts of the province, also states his full approval, in the inclosed note, of all the arrangements, and his readiness to make these known in the direction to which he is proceeding.

To facilitate the circulation of information on the subject, I have put

together, in the form of a small tract, all the Proclamations that have appeared here relative to emigration, together with all the regulations, rules, and conditions of Mr. Austin's establishment, the whole being prefaced by apposite remarks written by a Chinese, and of which I also a inclose a translation.

His Excellency Laou has expressed himself much pleased with this little compilation; and in order that there may be no question as to the punishment to which kidnappers are liable, he is now making known, in a Proclamation, of which I append a translation, his proceedings with reference to those lately arrested at Whampoa, and his determination to follow the same rigorous course in all future instances.

I should add that I am greatly encouraged to persevere in the promotion of this good cause by the receipt of your Excellency's despatch of the 4th of November.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HARRY S. PARKES.

Inclosure 2 in No. 7.

Governor-General Laou to Mr. Parkes.

(Translation.)

LAOU, Governor-General of the Two Kiang, &c., communicates by letter with Mr. Commissioner Parkes.

The Governor-General has now had the honour to receive a letter (from the Commissioner), and has informed himself of its contents.

With respect to the establishment for the hiring of labourers, he has already intimated to the Financial and Judicial Commissioners the necessity of instructing all the Prefects and Departmental and District Magistrates to act up to (the spirit of the proclamation, &c.), and that they (the Commissioners) should deliver to the Magistrates of the two districts in which the provincial capital is situate, copies of the Governor's proclamation and of (Mr. Austin's) public notice to be posted up.

There have been now, too, delivered to him fifty copies of the public notice, which he will inclose to the various Prefects with orders for them to direct every Departmental and District Magistrate (within their respective jurisdictions) to issue proclamations, and to post them and the public notices up together; orders have also been given by the Governor-General to the Magistrates of the Nanhai and Pwanyu districts, directing them to send out in different directions official messengers with copies of the recent proclamation, to be posted at every village or market town on their different routes, but that they should first visit the Allied Commissioners' yamun to get copies of the public notice, in order that these might be pasted up with the proclamation, so that every one may be informed of the same.

The Governor-General will also publish a proclamation relative to the seizure and condemnation of the eighteen kidnappers, and will, moreover, order all the subordinate authorities to follow the same course in the measures to be taken for the rigorous arrest of kidnappers Major Taou has also been instructed to detach officers and war-boats from his force, to take under their surveillance the river in the vicinity of Chang-chow (Whampoa anchorage), and there to search for and seize the kidnappers.

These officers on coming upon traces of the kidnappers should at once communicate with the men-of-war of your honourable nation (or nations), and if they would co-operate with them in seizing these miscreants and bringing them to justice, the people might be saved from a great evil.

The Governor has instructed Major Taou to make out a list of the names of the officers who are to be employed on this service, and to forward it to the Commissioner for his inspection.

In completion of this letter, the Governor begs to express his sincere wishes that the Commissioner may enjoy uninterrupted happiness.

A card with the Governor's name is inclosed.

(Received November 12, 1859.)

Inclosure 3 in No. 7.

Governor-General Laou to Mr. Parkes.

(Translation.)

LAOU, Governor-General of the Two Kwang, communicates with Mr. Commissioner Parkes.

The hundred copies of the public notice (Mr. Austin's) which I had the honour to receive from you a day or two ago, I at once delivered to the Magistrate of the Nanhae district, with instructions to have some pasted in the city and suburbs, and others in the neighbouring districts. But unexpectedly, and owing to a misapprehension, he confined the distribution of these within the bounds of his own jurisdiction, and consequently, in the Pwanyu district none were posted. Yesterday I received fifty copies more, but now that it is my intention to send some to all the prefectures, departments, and districts, this number will not suffice: I hope, therefore, you will direct 200 fresh copies to be printed, and when sending me these, I beg you will forward, at the same time, 100 copies of the proclamation I issued a few days ago, when I will see that the whole of these are distributed.

It is my intention to issue a proclamation relative to the proceedings in the case of the kidnappers, and I send for your inspection a draft, which, when read, I beg you will return, in order that the magistrates may proceed with the putting it in type and having it printed.

I avail myself of this opportunity to wish you perfect happiness.

(Received November 14, 1859.)

Inclosure 4 in No. 7.

The Prefect Woo to Mr. Parkes.

(Translation.)

WOO, Prefect of Canton and the dependent districts, communicates by letter with Mr. Commissioner Parkes.

The Prefect had yesterday the honour to receive a letter (from the Commissioner), with twenty copies of a public notice (Mr. Austin's), and an equal number of pamphlets, each containing correspondence and other papers relating to the new plan for emigration. He has studied the whole of them, and considers the regulations as therein drawn up to be excellent and suitable in every respect. He will take them with him, and will distribute them at the Tsin-yuen camp, to which he is now proceeding. He fears he shall not be able again to write to the Commissioner, as he is obliged to hurry his departure, and hopes that his apparent want of politeness will be on this account excused. He begs to offer his sincere wishes for the Commissioner's future happiness.

Inclosure 5 in No. 7.

Preface to Mr. Austin's Pamphlet.

(Translation.)

MEN, as we know, are born poor, as well as rich; and each of these classes has its different pursuits. The rich, who have food and clothing in abundance, can live all their days in the enjoyment of their estates, whilst the poor (in many cases) travel far to make out a livelihood, and any portion of the globe (*lit.*, the four seas) may become their home.

Such being the case, when steps were taken by foreign countries to procure labourers, numbers of Chinese emigrated, but many prolific abuses were engendered in consequence of the system having been carried on under no fixed regulations. Thus, for instance, the different States who have hitherto been hiring Chinese in Kwang-tung to go as labourers to their several dependencies, had no intention themselves of procuring them by compulsion; but there was always a class of abandoned wretches who, by resorting to every means of

kidnapping, and having recourse to secret torture, would force (their victims) to consent against their will; and though the latter, when brought into the presence of the foreigners, did not retract their consent, still, in reality, their engagement was by no means a voluntary one.

Consequently when they had embarked, they were apprehensive and dejected, like persons sitting upon thorns, could neither eat nor drink, and were easily affected by heat and cold, so that very many died upon the voyage, whilst those who reached their destination were ever thinking of their relatives and children, and yearning for their homes. Added to this, they were ever engaged in arduous toil, so that sickness rose and spread rapidly amongst them, proving fatal to many more, in these distant lands. The gainers throughout were the abandoned wretches (above mentioned), the sufferers were the poor (*lit.*, stupid) people who lost their lives, and the foreigners also whose capital had been so uselessly wasted.

My Government, guided by experience upon these points, and being now anxious to engage labourers for our English West Indian dependencies, but apprehensive at the same time lest things should go on in the old way, determined not to leave the procuring of this supply to the uncontrolled action of our own wealthy merchants, and sent me to Canton for the special purpose of devising such measures of security as I might find the circumstances of the case itself required.

Now I think that to remove abuses it is necessary first to show the advantages (which are to be substituted in their place), and that stopping up the source is preferable to impeding the current; it has been my aim, therefore, to frame such regulations as, by their justice, must (eventually) put a stop to kidnapping on the part of the abandoned vagabonds.

The high authorities of Canton, and the Allied Commanders-in-chief, and the two Magistrates of the Pwan-yu and Nanhai districts, have respectively issued prohibitory proclamations; many kidnappers also have been seized, and paid the fearful penalty of their crime. These steps have all been taken to protect the innocent people—a work in which I too wish to aid. In announcing, therefore, the establishment of a Public Emigration Office, I at the same time here publish, *seriatim* and in full, the five regulations (sanctioned by the authorities) under which I am prepared to conduct my emigration, together with the full particulars of the terms I offer to emigrants, such as the advance of money, to be paid them at starting; the food and clothing to be supplied (upon the voyage); the sustenance, house-accommodation, and medical provision upon landing; together with the rate of wages, the hours of labour, and full permission for the emigrants to take their families along with them.

This pamphlet contains also the rules that are to be observed during the temporary residence of emigrants at the depôt, as well as the different proclamations that have been issued, in the order of their publication, so that one perusal will afford every information to the people of the city, villages, and large towns: and poor Chinese who have no means of earning a livelihood, knowing that an officer has been appointed by my Government to establish an Emigration Office which is worked altogether according to the rules, may now voluntarily come forward without danger of being kidnapped.

With respect to the wages regulation, although the monthly rate is fixed at 4 dollars with rations, still labour is paid in the West Indies at the rate of from 3 to 4 mace (about half-a-dollar) a-day; and if upon arriving (the emigrant) should wish, as it is optional for him, to work by the day, he could earn so much more that, after providing himself with the necessaries of life, he would certainly have such a surplus at the end of each month as, accumulated for a term of five years, would enable him to pay the expenses of his passage home without difficulty.

Henceforth, therefore, poor Chinese may repair to English territory, as if hastening to a happy land, and set out with easy minds; while I also may feel that I have not dishonoured my trust, in having thus endeavoured to act up to those sacred tenets which enjoin a regard for human life, and those principles of humanity by which my Government is herein actuated.

Inclosure 6 in No. 7.

Proclamation by Governor-General Laou.

(Translation.)

WHEREAS in the city of Canton and the surrounding country, there were a set of lawless vagabonds who kidnapped and decoyed harmless people for the purpose of selling them privately to go abroad under the name of "selling pigs," having the hardihood to violate what is right by their most detestable acts, I deputed an officer to prosecute a vigorous search (for these offenders), and he captured twenty-nine of them at the Whampoa anchorage, besides bringing up thence forty-one innocent people who had been kidnapped. These parties were confronted and carefully examined, and in virtue of the Imperial Warrant which I have the honour to hold, I decapitated, for an example, eighteen of the criminals whose guilt, as persons who had been repeatedly engaged in kidnapping, was most heinous, and was punishable by death according to law. The remaining criminals were also punished, each according to his deserts, so as sufficiently to quiet men's minds and afford a notable warning. Punishment following upon crime, however, not being, in my opinion, so good as to warn men against its commission, it becomes absolutely necessary to publish this far and near, so that the hardened wretches may be filled with awe.

Besides again ordering, therefore, all the local, civil, and military authorities to prosecute the search vigorously, it becomes my duty to issue a Proclamation for (general) information: know ye, therefore, the people of every place, hereby, that kidnappers, who privately sell men to go abroad, will be beheaded immediately upon their apprehension, so severe upon this point is the law of the land. Thus, those eighteen men who have now been punished, were tempted solely by the love of gain. Little did they know that Heaven would not endure them; that it is difficult to escape from the meshes of the law, and that, in the space of a moment, their heads would be severed from their bodies.

Was this not dreadful? All you who are of this stamp must wake up without delay, and exert yourselves to change your former evil courses. On no account tread again in the old track, to place your persons in jeopardy of the law.

Loving the people as my children, but firmly bent upon adherence to the law, I hope that, by ceasing to do evil, and learning to do well, you will protect your own lives. I, therefore, do not hesitate to reiterate this again, and if (any one) dare to disobey, repentance will be unavailing.

Let every one tremblingly observe this special Proclamation.

Inclosure 7 in No. 7.

Mr. Parkes to Mr. Bruce.

Sir, *Canton, November* 26, 1859.

I HAVE the honour to proceed with my report of the measures which continue to be taken here for the promotion of a legalized and well-regulated system of Chinese emigration to British and foreign Colonies.

The inclosed letter from Mr. Austin will inform your Excellency that by the end of this month he anticipates the completion of the arrangements now making in his Emigration House for the reception of emigrants. Until these are concluded it is, of course, difficult to bring his system into efficient working order; but I believe Mr. Sampson has engaged as many emigrants as he can yet conveniently accommodates, and that the number on his register is now 170. Not more than half of these, however, are yet provided with quarters in the Emigration House, and it is not at all improbable that some of them may wish to change their minds, or be found to have entered from fraudulent motives, hoping, probably, to obtain an advance of money, as well as blankets and clothes, and then to decamp. Mr. Sampson also has just discovered that the Whampoa crimps are tampering with his emigrants, and have, he believes, even entered the Emigration House with the view of prejudicing them against Mr. Austin's system, or of inducing them to leave under promise of better offers. Such

difficulties as these must, of course, be expected, and must be met by patient persuasion and such precautions as experience shows to be necessary.

It is probable, however, that the system which Mr. Austin was the first to adopt will shortly find other followers among the foreigners who are now carrying on the coolie trade at Whampoa, through the agency of crimps. The United States' Consul, the Dutch Consul, and an agent of the principal shipper of coolies to the Havana, have all visited me to obtain information as to the system now introduced and in force at Canton; and while they have all declared their wish to see emigration properly regulated, they have taken no objection to those rules which have been established by the Governor-General Laou and the Allied Commanders. I believe that as many as six or seven foreign vessels, under United States, Dutch, Peruvian, and Mecklenburgh colours, are now taking in coolies at Whampoa for the Havana; the agents employed being Americans, Frenchmen, Portuguese, and Spaniards, and some of these I have heard are already thinking of opening depôts at Canton, either on the city or the Honan side.

It is stated also that Mr. Austin's example will be followed by the agent of the French ship "Galilée," which has come here to take coolies for the French West Indian Colonies. These various Emigration Agents are, indeed, obliged to adopt this course, or to set all local law at defiance, as the Governor-General Laou has distinctly declined to grant the co-operation of Chinese officers, or to carry out an official system of inspection, at any other place than Canton. This determination on his Excellency's part is the result of an application made to him by the United States' Consul to send a Chinese officer to Whampoa to superintend at that anchorage the emigration carried on in American ships. His Excellency in his reply to Mr. Perry entered very fully into the reasons which rendered it impossible for him to entertain the proposal, and on the same grounds he laid down the rule that all emigration from this port must be carried on at Canton. His Excellency forwarded this correspondence to the Allied Commissioners, and then circulated it among the foreign Consuls, and I am accordingly able to inclose translations. I also beg to add copy of a letter written to me on the receipt of Laou's letter by the Netherlands Consul, who had previously assured me that when once clearly advised of what the local law on the subject was, he should have no hesitation in requiring all Dutch ships or subjects to conform to it.

In order that the prohibitions against man-stealing may be effectually carried out at Whampoa, his Excellency Laou has appointed a cruizer, commanded by an officer of the rank of Showpei (Captain or Naval Lieutenant), to form a permanent guard at that anchorage, and thus prevent the collection there of the Chinese receiving-boats, which were formerly seen lining one bank of the river to the number of forty or fifty at a time, and to which the kidnapped people were in the first instance conveyed before being taken on board the foreign vessels. A functionary in the Governor's suite has proceeded this morning to Whampoa, to instal the above-mentioned officer in his post; and Captain Heath, the senior British naval officer, has been so good as to undertake his introduction to the other British Commanders at present stationed there, and to Mr. Hale, the Vice-Consul.

In my last despatch on this subject I mentioned that the Governor-General had also agreed to send officers into the districts in the immediate vicinity of Canton, in order to explain to the people and elders of villages the system of emigration as now legalized and regulated, and the difference between this and the proceedings of crimps. Six officers were appointed for this service, and divided into three parties of two in each, in order that they might take between them the three sub-districts of Shing-an, Mo-tih-le, and Luh-poo. Having first been instructed by me on those points of chief importance which they were to impress upon the attention of the people, and in particular on the facilities offered under Mr. Austin's scheme for emigrants being accompanied with their wives and families, they set out on their respective missions on the 19th instant. The party which went through the sub-district of Shing-an, in which most of the celebrated "ninety-six villages" are situated, returned in the afternoon of the 24th, and has reported its proceedings in the Memorandum of which I inclose a copy. Your Excellency will, doubtless, see an advantage in my thus making the matter of emigration a means of bringing myself into direct communication with many of the gentry of the surrounding villages, as, if I succeed in

obtaining their co-operation, or even only in maintaining an intercourse with them, on a subject which speaks to the kindly sympathies of all parties, it may be hoped that general interests would also benefit by the friendly intercourse that would be thus promoted.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HARRY S. PARKES.

Inclosure 8 in No. 7.

Mr. Austin to Mr. Parkes.

Sir, *Canton, November 19, 1859.*

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, for the information of the Allied Commanders, as also of the Commissioners of Canton, that I have appointed Mr. Theophilus Sampson to the charge of the British West India Emigration House, and that I have directed him to commence operations, and to receive as many emigrants as his daily-increasing accommodation will enable him to make comfortable.

About the 1st of next month, I anticipate that the carpenters and masons will have completed that portion of the house set apart for emigrants; and as it may be expected that all other arrangements will by then be in such a state of forwardness as to give a fair idea of our entire system, I purpose returning to Canton to invite the official inspection of the Allied Commanders and Commissioners, and to return to them in person my best thanks for that support and co-operation by the which I have been enabled to commence operations in a most unexpectedly rapid manner.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. GARDINER AUSTIN.

Inclosure 9 in No. 7.

Governor-General Laou to the Allied Commissioners.

(Translation.)

I HAVE received a communication from the United States' Consul, Mr. Perry, requesting me to appoint an officer at Whampoa, to assist the shipmasters in the matter of procuring labourers, and stating also that (in the event of my doing so) they would contribute for the purchase of a large vessel as his official residence.

Now, considering the distance of Whampoa from Canton, and the little control which can be exercised over the movements of the receiving-ships there, I feared that (if I were to grant this) the old abuses of kidnapping could not be prevented, and it would be inconsistent also with the rules of the office now established at the provincial city.

I answered the Consul, therefore, to this effect; but lest other countries, being uninformed, should put forward each its own views, so as to give rise to various modes of action, I inclose herewith a copy of my reply, and beg that you will communicate it without delay to the Consuls of the other nations, for their information.

Henceforth, if any persons wish to engage in the business of procuring labourers, they must act conformably to the fixed rule as established at the provincial city for the proper regulation of this traffic, not carrying it on at different places away from the city, or in receiving-ships; so that I, being at hand, may be enabled to take measures for the detection and suppression of kidnapping, and by doing so pursue a course which is at once consistent and agreeable to the fixed rule.

I therefore address you this communication, wishing you, at the same time, continual happiness.

A necessary communication.
(Dated November 22, 1859.)

Inclosure 10 in No. 7.

Governor-General Laou to Mr. Perry.

(Translation.)

I HAVE carefully perused the representation which you made, requesting me to appoint an officer at Whampoa to aid the shipmasters in procuring labourers, and follow on the fixed rules for the prevention of kiddapping. You state also that the shipmasters would contribute for the purchase of a large vessel as his residence.

Now, by the regulations about hiring coolies which the French and English have determined on, an office has been opened at Canton for this purpose, which is worked with the assistance of a Chinese officer on the spot. Parties who wish to go abroad as labourers must first come to the office at Canton, ascertain the rate of wages and term of service, which are registered as proof, and then go on board ship upon the day agreed upon, so as to obviate confusion.

I have fully satisfied myself of the soundness of these measures, and given them my adhesion; but as for carrying such out at Whampoa, the place is too far from Canton, and the officer would find it difficult to work; whilst the difficulties of investigation would be much increased, owing to the little control which can be exercised over the movements of the receiving-ships: besides, it would not agree with the fixed rule now adopted in the office at Canton.

Moreover, kidnappers have been emboldened hitherto to carry on their lawless trade by having receiving-ships to retire to. I find that no cases of this crime occurred before these vessels anchored at Whampoa; and there can be no doubt that the schemes of kidnappers were the offspring of the receiving-ship system.

But, further, establishing such a vessel at Whampoa would be like anchoring her out at sea, and would give an ever-increasing impulse to the plots of these vagabonds for decoying people. The place is an out-of-the-way one, where it would not be easy for Chinese and foreign officials to conduct investigations; and kidnappers, at present, are very numerous.

An officer, deputed by me, released there some time ago forty-one persons who had been kidnapped, and made prisoners of thirty-six kidnappers; whereupon I beheaded eighteen of the most guilty. Indeed, it is but too apparent that the whole country swarms with these wretches; and were a receiving-ship established, I very much fear that we could not put a stop to the old practice, and that the kidnapping of poor people forced into an unwilling contract, and the deaths of very many of them, would injure the plans which both you and I wish to devise for putting an end to the evil. This would be most deplorable: rather let the regulations of the office at Canton be generally adopted, and the investigations conducted in this vicinity with the officer I have deputed, thus complying with the fixed rule, and adhering to one uniform plan.

Inclosure 11 in No. 7.

Mr. Vanderhoeven to Mr. Parkes.

My dear Sir, *Canton, November* 24, 1859.

IN expressing my best thanks for your translation (I really feel half ashamed for the trouble I have caused you), I assure you that I, for one, entirely agree with your view of the subject, and I have no doubt the Nether lands Government will also act upon it. That the recruiting part of the coolie business at Whampoa is in contravention with local laws is now very clear, and that is the only practical question with which I wanted to deal.

Believe me, &c.

(Signed) J. VANDERHOEVEN.

Inclosure 12 in No. 7.

Report of the Visit to the Sub-District of Shingan (in which most of the "ninety-six villages" are situated), to make known the Emigration Proclamations and Regulations.

TOAN-YEN-CHWANG, Assistant Magistrate, and Chin-yuen, attached to the ninth rank, accompanied by the writer Lew, from the Allied Commissioners' yamun, left the allied landing-place about noon, on the 19th instant, to post notices, &c., and distribute books explanatory of the Government system of emigration amongst the villages and townships under the Assistant Magistrate of Shingan, in the Nanhai district. Proceeding westward, at 4·30 P.M. they reached Yen-poo, near which is the residence of the Assistant Magistrate Shao-ngan-tsêng. They visited him, and heard that he had previously received some copies of the Notices from the Nanhai Magistrate, which he had already made public. They posted up five more, distributed fifteen books, and spoke to the people, telling them that both the allied and Chinese authorities utterly abhorred the malpractices of those who had been engaged in kidnapping men and selling them to go abroad, and that it had hitherto been carried on by private parties, but that the British Government had now appointed public officers to superintend the emigration to British Colonies, who would conduct all these proceedings according to the Regulations now made known to them, which had been drawn up by the authorities of the two Governments in concert; therefore there was thereupon no reason against their taking with them their wives and families. They further offered such explanations of the Regulations, &c., as appeared at the time necessary. This procedure they repeated at every village they afterwards visited.

At Yen-poo reside the gentry Leang-yu-slim and Leang-yao-tsoo, with whom they conversed on the subject. Thence they went in chairs to Hai-sin-sha, about five *li* distant, where are two public halls, and where reside the gentry Ho-hwei-ting, Ho-tso-heen, and Li-chao. They distributed ten copies of the placards, and the same number of books, and they also saw and spoke to the various tepos of the public buildings, where they pasted up sometimes two, sometimes three, copies of the placards. Returning to their boat, they slept that night off the Magistrate's yamun.

Early on the morning of the 20th they started for Li-peen-tsun, five *li* distant; from there to Shao-peen, thence on to Kwan-peen, and then to Hwang-keang bridge, in the Ping-te township. All these villages lie but a short distance apart. They stopped at all of them, and posted the Proclamations, Regulations, &c., and spoke to the people, &c. At Hwang-keang bridge lives Hwang-kin-koo, one of the gentry; him and the tepo of the place they saw and conversed with.

On the 21st, leaving Hwang-keang bridge, they went in chairs to Hio-ching, a distance of five *li*, thence, by water for six *li*, on to Si-yao, three *li* further on to Sin-keao-too, three *li* further to Li-chwang, and three *li* further to Ta-li-heu. At Ta-li reside the gentry Li-leang and Chung-sz-ting; they saw them, and the tepo as well.

On the 22nd they visited Sin-tsun, which lies about two *li* south of Ta-li; thence, two *li* further, to Tsao-peen-tseun; thence three *li* to Tae-ping-heu, in the Te-yun township; thence five *li* to Ta-chin, in the Hoo-nan township, a hamlet of the market of Lung-tow, where they saw the resident tepo. They returned, in the evening, to Ta-li, where they had slept the night previous.

Starting again the next morning from Ta-li, they went in chairs to Ta-fan, where they re-embarked, and, proceeding for four *li*, reached Heang-ke-too; thence they went, for ten *li*, on to Wa-yao; thence for three *li* to Lao-tun-sin; thence for six *li* to Fung-keang; thence for four *li* to Pe-chung, by the Seun-fung market. Pe-chung is a township, and the residence of the gentry Yang-wan-kuo and Tsow-tseang-ken. Thence they went to Kew-tsun, and thence to the township and village of Hwang-chu-ke, where resides Hwang-tso-chuen, a high graduate; him they saw and conversed with, sleeping at Hwang-chu-ke.

On the 24th they started on their return journey, visiting, by the way, Kae-pan-tsun, Kwo-tsun, and Pei-te-shuy, where Wang-keen-sin resides, in charge of the township of Fa-tung. From thence they returned to Canton, arriving at the yamun about 1 P.M. on the 24th of November.

The sub-district under the Assistant Magistrate Shin-an-sz is divided into

8 townships, and contains 170 villages. All of these townships were visited by them.

The country people were all very busy with the harvest, which is not yet all finished, but, nevertheless, wherever they went they found eager and anxious listeners.

The harvest is described as being very indifferent, and a consequent scarcity expected in the ensuing winter.

In their visits to the gentry they were met, in every instance, with civility and proffers of assistance. Many of the rich inhabitants of the district have lately moved, so as to be nearer to Fuh-shan.

They took with them 120 copies of the paper containing the Regulations and Mr. Austin's conditions, and 150 of the pamphlets, all of which they expended. They say they have every reason to believe that the applicants for registration will be not a few during next month.

The Deputy Magistrate Shaon-ngan-tseng voluntarily accompanied the party throughout the journey, and rendered them the greatest assistance, without which they could not have accomplished their mission either so efficiently or with such expedition.

Canton, November 25, 1859.

No. 8.

Mr. Bruce to Lord J. Russell.—(*Received January* 29, 1860.)

My Lord, *Shanghae, December* 5, 1859.

I HAVE the honour to inclose several documents throwing light on the system of kidnapping pursued at Whampoa, and on the progress made by Mr. Austin in establishing an emigration office and depôt at Canton.

Mr. Austin applied, towards the end of October, to the Allied Commissioners to assist him in obtaining a confirmation by the new Governor-General Laou of Pih-kwei's proclamation recognizing emigration, and in pressing him to establish depôts for emigration under the joint superintendence of British and Chinese authorities. On receiving a report from Mr. Parkes I addressed to him the inclosed despatch, approving of his assisting Mr. Austin in every way, and pointing out that if the opportunity afforded by the occupation were lost, of setting on foot a system such as that proposed, the proclamation issued by the Canton authorities would in all probability remain a dead letter. Emigration in the southern provinces of China, instead of being repugnant to the feelings of the people, may be considered as a social necessity for many generations: the laws against it have been in abeyance, and they have only been called latterly into activity by the scenes of kidnapping and violence to which the employment of Chinese crimps and the payment of head-money for coolies have given rise.

I quite agree in the opinion expressed by Mr. Vice-Consul Winchester, that had not the people been restrained by the presence of the allied troops, the atrocities committed at Whampoa would, ere this, have led to a rising on the part of the Chinese, and not improbably to an indiscriminate attack on foreign residents. Fortunately the Canton authorities, urged on by the clamour of the people to take measures for their protection, and unable to solve the problem by their usual expedient of directing popular indignation against the foreigners engaged in this traffic, have been forced to deal with the question in a practical spirit, and endeavour by regulation to stop the abuses to which emigration, while clandestine and unrecognized, is sure to give birth.

The Governor-General Laou therefore willingly entertained the suggestions made to him by the Commissioners for the establishment, without further delay, of a joint system of foreign and Chinese inspection, under which the Chinese willing to emigrate might obtain accurate information of the place of their destination, of the accommodation provided on board ship, and of the terms offered for the hire of their labour, with perfect freedom to accept these terms or not, and to consult, if they choose, before deciding, with their relations and friends.

At first there was some discussion among the Commissioners as to whether the depôts for emigrants should be established on board ship or on shore, and

whether the place fixed on should be Canton or Whampoa. The conclusion (in my opinion the sound one) finally adopted was, to discard ships, which, in the eyes of the Chinese, are no better than prisons, and to establish depôts at Canton instead of at Whampoa, so unfavourably associated in the mind of the Chinese with the practice of kidnapping. There are now two hongs open for emigrants, and an office established to which an English and a Chinese official are attached; and within the first five days no less than seventy coolies, after proper examination, have registered themselves as willing to emigrate to the West Indies on the terms explicitly set forth in the prospectus and pamphlets issued by Mr. Austin.

Mr. Parkes' energy, and knowledge of the language and habits of the people, have enabled him to render great service to this good cause, by explaining the subject fully to the gentry and elders, and enlisting their sympathies in its favour. Their co-operation is essential to spread among the people a knowledge of the very favourable conditions offered by Mr. Austin, and to satisfy them that this scheme is placed under the safeguard of responsible authority, and has nothing in common with enterprises conducted by private persons as profitable speculations in human flesh. It will, moreover, be the best justification the local officers can give to the Pekin Government for having, in obedience to the force of circumstances and the popular will, deviated from a traditional law of the Empire.

Your Lordship will see that Laou has declared his adherence to the arrangements agreed on, in spite of contrary orders received from the Imperial Commissioner Ho, which were provoked by the unfortunate occurrences at Shanghae and Ningpo in July last. At the same time, emboldened by the sympathy and support of the allied Commanders, he has, while facilitating voluntary and unconstrained emigration, adopted the most rigorous measures to put down kidnapping. In a descent executed under his orders on Whampoa, he succeeded in releasing forty-one kidnapped men, and in capturing twenty-nine of the native kidnappers. Of the latter, he has, after a formal examination, put to death eighteen, and punished the remainder with different degrees of severity; transmitting, at the same time, to the different Consuls the depositions of the men set at liberty, and the confessions of the guilty parties. These documents reveal a system of fraud and violence which ought to startle the Europeans whose gold, acting on Chinese cupidity, has been the primary and efficient cause of these criminal acts.

Some coolies have also been set at liberty by the United States' Consul, Mr. Perry, who had been taken on board ships at Whampoa against their will. I have no reason to doubt that Mr. Perry is anxious to stop these abuses, and has adopted such preventive measures as the imperfect means at his command enable him to take.

But these instances confirm the opinions expressed by Messrs. Morrison and Parkes in their despatches, as to the difficulty of preventing the improper shipment of coolies by any official inspection of emigrant ships conducted by foreign authorities. The dread of falling subsequently into the hands of the kidnappers, and their threats as to his fate if he ventures to remonstrate, deter the coolie from complaining of his detention to an official, whom he has been taught to identify with those interested in carrying him off.

The wishes of the coolie ought to be ascertained before he goes on board ship, and while he feels himself a free agent. This is provided for in the inclosed regulations, and, indeed, the rules laid down seem to leave nothing to desire for the protection of the coolies, and for the prevention of abuses by the bad characters who might seek food and shelter at the depôt with the intention of refusing to ship at the last moment. The language of the prospectus, however, seemed to me to pledge Her Majesty's Government against emigration conducted by private parties to an extent not justified by any instructions received from the Foreign Office, and I have called Mr. Parkes' attention to the subject, as I am very anxious that we should not hold out promises on this subject which we may not be able to fulfil.

I inclose to your Lordship an extract from a Report of Mr. Alcock's, containing useful hints for the management of Chinese labourers. It might be desirable to have his observations circulated in the Colony for which the coolies are destined. Attention on the part of employers in the West Indies to the character and peculiarities of the Chinese labourer cannot be too strongly insisted

on. All accounts agree that the supply of labour required can be easily obtained, with benefit to the people and to China herself; and there is no reason to doubt that it may be directed in a continuous stream to that quarter, if the promises held out by Mr. Austin are strictly fulfilled, if proper provision be made for the maintenance and comfort of the Chinese during the voyage, and if on arrival they are treated with due consideration. A Chinaman's object in emigration is the acquisition of wealth; and in the Straits' Settlements it has been found that the most profitable way of employing his labour is to bring this motive into full play by giving him ground for the cultivation of the sugar cane, he paying rent for it in the shape of a fair proportion of the produce. I am inclined to think that emigrants would crowd to any country where such an arrangement could be adopted, and that it would have the effect of attaching many of them to the soil. But he will not work equally well as a slave, and will become dissatisfied if he finds that advantage has been taken of his ignorance to obtain his labour at less than the market rate.

England, France, and Spain are the three countries to whose dependencies it is sought to direct this emigration. The French Colonies, like our own, are free; and I see no reason to doubt that the French Government will gladly inaugurate a system analogous to that established by Mr. Austin. The existence of slave-labour in Cuba presents greater sources of embarrassment; for according to the description of Mr. Dana, in a little book lately published under the title of "Cuba and Back," the position of the coolie differs little from that of the slave, and the anticipated difficulty of competing openly in the labour market of China with Colonies where labour is free, may induce the Spanish authorities to connive at the present system of conducting emigration to Cuba through the agency of private parties, whose profits are derived from the sale, at an average of 400 dollars, of the contract entered into by the coolie. British ships have ceased, I believe, to participate in this trade, which is carried on under the flags of France, the United States, Spain, &c., to the great discredit of their national reputation. It remains to be seen whether the extension of a regulated system to Amoy and Swatow, if agreed to, combined with more activity on the part of the Chinese authorities, will succeed in putting an end to the abuses which have hitherto attended private emigration. It would be most desirable that Spain should place it under official regulation, and prohibit the landing of coolies unless under certificate from the Agent of a depôt under joint Spanish and Chinese superintendence.

I have, &c.
FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 8.

Mr. Parkes to Mr. Bruce, November 10, 1859.

[See Inclosure 1 in No. 6.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 8.

General Regulations under which it is proposed to conduct the Emigration of Chinese from Canton to the British West Indies.

[See Inclosure 5 in No. 6.]

Inclosure 3 in No. 8.

Acting Governor-General Laou to the Allied Commissioners, October 27, 1859.

[See Inclosure 7 in No. 6.]

Inclosure 4 in No. 8.

Proclamation by Governor-General Laou, October 28, 1859.

[See Inclosure 9 in No. 6.]

Inclosure 5 in No. 8.

Public Notice by Mr. Austin.

[See Inclosure 14 in No. 6.]

Inclosure 6 in No. 8.

Proposed Rules for Emigration House.

[See Inclosure 15 in No. 6.]

Inclosure 7 in No. 8.

Mr. Bruce to Mr. Parkes.

Sir, *Shanghae, November* 4, 1859.

I ENTIRELY approve of the attempt you are making to organise and put on foot at once, in concert with the Chinese authorities, a system of emigration at the port of Canton. Unless it can be put in operation during the allied occupation, I fear that as soon as the troops are withdrawn, the Proclamation recognizing the right to emigrate will become a dead letter; but if it can be carried out practically before that period arrives, and is found to be beneficial to all parties interested, the Chinese Government may be induced, perhaps, to accept it as a *fait accompli.*

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosure 8 in No. 8.

Mr. Parkes to Mr. Bruce, November 15, 1859.

[See Inclosure 1 in No. 7.]

Inclosure 9 in No. 8.

Governor-General Laou to Mr. Parkes.

[See Inclosure 2 in No. 7.]

Inclosure 10 in No. 8.

Governor-General Laou to Mr. Parkes.

[See Inclosure 3 in No. 7.]

Inclosure 11 in No. 8.

The Prefect Woo to Mr. Parkes.

[See Inclosure 4 in No. 7.]

Inclosure 12 in No. 8.

Preface to Mr. Austin's Pamphlet.

[See Inclosure 5 in No. 7.]

Inclosure 13 in No. 8.

Proclamation by Governor-General Laou.

[See Inclosure 6 in No. 7.]

Inclosure 14 in No. 8.

Mr. Parkes to Mr. Bruce, November 10, 1859.

[See Inclosure 17 in No. 6.]

Inclosure 15 in No. 8.

Governor-General Laou to the Allied Commissioners, November 8, 1859.

[See Inclosure 18 in No. 6.]

Inclosure 16 in No. 8.

Acting Consul Winchester to Mr. Bruce.

Sir, *Canton, November* 12, 1859.

I HAVE now the honour to inclose the translation of the evidence annexed to the Governor-General's letter to the Consular body on the subject of kidnapping. Eighteen of the kidnappers seized at Whampoa, after a trial more than usually scrupulous, suffered yesterday the last penalty of the law.

As the subject is one of permanent interest, I venture to adjoin a short summary of the principles on which the recent negotiations relative to emigration to the British West Indies are based:—

1. The establishment of a depôt in Chinese territory, to and from which emigrants, and those connected with them, have unrestricted ingress and egress at reasonable hours. Any foreign depôt-ship, no matter under what flag, becomes in effect a prison which the poorer Chinese are afraid to approach, and only those who are wealthy, and have the means of interesting foreigners in their behalf, ever venture to seek their relatives.

2. The disuse of the agency of crimps. Any arrangement according to which native agents receive so much a-head for every emigrant they bring must lead to kidnapping and man-stealing. In the vast majority of cases, the Chinese coolie will not venture, with the threatening eye of the crimp upon him, to declare his unwillingness to proceed, or to narrate the story of his kidnapping: he is reduced to silence, except where utter despair finds a remedy in attempted self-destruction, by the fear of death and personal injury from those in whose power he is.

3. Joint Chinese and foreign official superintendence of emigration depôts. Officers of the former class no doubt possess better means of discovering the real circumstances connected with the case of any particular Chinese; but they will always be open to the corruption of the foreign agent, unless European officers in the service of the Chinese Government are joined with them in the inspection of the emigration depôts.

All subsidiary regulations that are not founded on or in accordance with these principles must be productive of pernicious results.

I have doubts whether, with a time of political difficulty approaching, the operation of the British West Indian scheme will be attended with success, or be permitted to proceed without interruption; but there is, at least, this advantage gained by the recent negotiations, that a full recognition of emigration on sound principles has been obtained from an important Provincial Government, and that, too, immediately antecedent to the arrival of adverse instructions from the Imperial Commissioner.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES WINCHESTER.

Inclosure 17 in No. 8.

Depositions of forty-one Kidnapped Chinese.

[See Inclosure 19 in No. 6.]

Inclosure 18 in No. 8.

Mr. Parkes to Mr. Bruce.

(Extract.) *Canton, November* 15, 1859.

MY despatch of the 10th instant contained a letter from his Excellency Laou, asking the Commissioners if anythig could be done to effect the release of six men, said to be detained on board foreign vessels at Whampoa. The Allied Commanders instructed me to tell his Excellency that, if these men were on board an English or French vessel, they should be given up; but, as his Excellency could not speak to the nationality of the vessel, they declined further interference.

Laou, however, having offered to send the two witnesses in the case to the Commissioners for examination, Mr. Perry, the United States' Consul, offered to take the men to Whampoa and search the American ships. He did so, and, on board one of them (the "Messenger"), he found Yeh-a-foo, one of the two men spoken of by Chun-a-se, and ascertained that the other man, Lai-ah-ming, had been sent on shore some days previously. He also liberated six men from another vessel, and one from a third, because they declared their unwillingness to go abroad; but no trace could be found of the other three men spoken of by the witness Tsang-e.

Yeh-a-foo was courteously sent to the Commissioners by the United States' Consul yesterday. The statement which he made before us confirms the ample evidence we have already received of the violence and wrong of the coolie trade as conducted at Whampoa, but it does not yet appear that the occasional visits of a Consul to the ships engaged in it, however well-intentioned, are sufficient to put a stop to these enormities.

Inclosure 19 in No. 8.

Mr. Bruce to Mr. Parkes.

Sir, *Shanghae, December* 2, 1859.

IN reading over the prospectus issued by Mr. Austin, I find he states that Her Majesty's Government "has determined to conduct the emigration itself, by means of special officers, and not to allow private persons to engage in it."

I shall be very glad if such be the decision of the Government, and it is possible that the Secretary of State for the Colonies may have used language which authorizes Mr. Austin to state this as the conclusion arrived at; but I am very unwilling that any expression should be employed in communications with the Chinese people or Government which may lead them to suppose that we are possessed of powers which have not been conferred on us by the Government, and at present I am without any instructions that would authorize me to forbid English vessels engaging in the trade except in connection with Mr. Austin's establishment, though it might be possible, in concert with the Chinese authorities, to defeat any separate project for shipping coolies on board an English vessel. I think, therefore, in any future issue of the prospectus, it would be well to omit that allusion, and confine it to an assertion of approval of Mr. Austin's scheme.

I am, &c.
(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosure 20 in No. 8.

Consul Alcock to Sir J. Bowring.

(Extract.) *September* 1, 1852.

THEY (the Chinese) are fairly industrious, and can get through a good day's work, not equal to European labourers in temperate climates, but much more than the latter could accomplish under a tropical sun; they do not, however, bear being kept very closely to it, or to be driven forward at a faster

pace than is habitual to them. Being an agricultural people field work finds more favour in their eyes than any other; but a Chinaman does not bear worrying, and would rather give up the best place in the world than be subjected to a continued fret. In their own country they require both patience and management in their employers, whether native or foreign, to be well looked after, and firmly but kindly dealt with. They have many good points; they are good-humoured upon the whole, patient and temperate as a class, yet often hasty in temper, and with strong feelings. If they do not like their work or their employer, they leave their situation at once, however advantageous it may be in other respects. Living is cheap, and they never care, therefore, to serve in a place that does not suit them. If in circumstances where they cannot or dare not leave, and they are dissatisfied with either their work or their treatment, they are apt to become sulky and very impracticable. They are fond of a sort of gossiping relaxation, and will often leave off for a few minutes in the middle of their work, however well disposed to do it fairly, while they smoke and chatter. Their own people, who may be supposed to know by practical experience how they may best get a good day's work for their wages, do not attempt to prevent this, unless the license is much abused, when a sense of justice among the workmen would not be wanting to give effect to the master's remonstrance or threat of applying a remedy.

The Chinese labourers are fond of holidays, and manage in their own country to make a good many. They spend much of their spare time in tea-shops, and wherever they may be in any number it would be essential, I conceive, to establish some, where they could resort, drink their national beverage, gossip away their leisure time, and get, if desired, their frugal meal of rice and vegetables. They have the great advantage of being a very temperate race, and upon the whole are very easily contented, if well and discreetly treated, with some regard to their national habits and customs.

No. 9.

Acting Consul Winchester to Mr. Hammond.—(*Received January* 29, 1860.)

Sir, *Canton, December* 9, 1859.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, copy of my despatch of this date, to the address of Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES A. WINCHESTER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 9.

Acting Consul Winchester to Mr. Bruce.

(Extract.) *Canton, December* 9, 1859.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a despatch from Mr. Vice-Consul Hale, relative to the coolie trade at Whampoa. I am informed that the British emigration scheme is very successful, notwithstanding some clever attempts on the part of the crimps to get the intending emigrants into their clutches.

The number of American vessels employed as receiving-ships for lengthened periods sufficiently shows the lucrative character of the employment.

Inclosure 2 in No. 9.

Vice-Consul Hale to Acting Consul Winchester.

Sir, *Whampoa, December* 9, 1859.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the following vessels are at present engaged in the coolie trade at this anchorage, viz.:—

1. The Oldenburgh barque "Fanny Kirchner," Captain Black, 477 tons,

chartered to take 350 coolies to Havana, at 55 dollars a head. Seventy lay-days. On the 7th instant, 150 coolies were transshipped to Macao in a steamer from this vessel.

2. The American ship "Pioneer," Captain Montgomery, 1,849 tons, chartered for twelve months as a receiving-vessel for coolies.

3. The American ship "Governor Morton," Captain Berry, 1,323 tons, receiving-ship.

4. The American ship "Messenger," Captain Manton, 1,350 tons, receiving-ship.

5. The Dutch barque "Sooloo," Captain Moulin, 692 tons, receiving-ship.

6. The Peruvian ship "Westward Ho," Captain Arancoa, 1,409 tons, receiving-ship.

The above vessels are in the habit of receiving about twenty coolies on board at a time, when they are transshipped for Macao.

On the 21st ultimo, the heads of seven Chinamen convicted of kidnapping were sent down from Canton, after execution, and are now exposed in cages on the island below Bamboo town, leading to Blenheim Reach.

On the 25th ultimo, Paon-gan-kieh, the officer despatched by the Governor-General for controlling the proceedings of crimps, arrived here in three men-of-war junks; he called and delivered to me your letter, and I have promised him my willing co-operation in all matters where British subjects are concerned. I think he may do good service in intercepting boats, &c., that are usually employed for the conveyance of coolies from the interior, and he can undoubtedly close all gambling-houses, &c., with the force at his disposal; but I doubt very much whether he will exercise any restraint on the native boats engaged by foreign vessels; indeed, he has already informed me that he feared to meddle with those frequently alongside the American receiving-ships, and known to be engaged in the coolie traffic. He has requested my aid to search them; I referred him to the American Consular Agent, with an assurance that I had no jurisdiction over other than British subjects, but that I should at all times be ready to give my best assistance compatible with my duty.

I have not heard of any violent cases of forcible expatriation of coolies since my last report, and I sincerely trust that the presence of Chinese men-of-war, with an energetic officer in command, may tend materially to check the malpractices too notoriously connected with Chinese emigration at this port.

I have, &c.

(Sigoed) FREDC. HOWE HALE.

No. 10.

Acting Consul Winchester to Mr. Hammond.—(*Received February* 18, 1860.)

(Extract.) *Canton, December* 28, 1859.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, copies of my despatches to the address of Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary, reporting arrangements for coolie emigration.

Inclosure 1 in No. 10.

Acting Consul Winchester to Mr. Bruce.

(Extract.) *Canton, December* 16, 1859.

I HAVE the honour to report that, during three days, I have been engaged in attesting the contracts of 127 Chinese coolies at the Emigration House at Cum-le-fan.

As the house is under military jurisdiction, my duties were simply notarial; but I had the opportunity of closely watching the routine of the establishment.

The coolies had been warned by a Proclamation of the Allied Commanders, to the effect that, on the 14th, they would be called on to sign the contracts, and that, after receiving their advances, they would no longer be at liberty to leave the premises, but would be, as soon as possible, put on board ship.

Meantime, their friends would be allowed free access to them; and the purchases made by them outside would be delivered on payment of the sums agreed on to the shopkeepers.

The contracts were carefully read over to groups of from eight to fifteen men; each individual coolie was interrogated with respect to his willingness to proceed; and the particulars, or such as he chose to give, of his home and friends, were accurately noted.

In the night between the 14th and 15th, a number of men broke out of the house, probably persons who, having received food since the opening of the establishment, had no intention to embark, and were erroneously afraid of being prevented from leaving in the daylight. Six of the men who had received advances, and signed their contracts, disappeared with them. But it is pleasing to be able to say that these six men had this morning all voluntarily returned.

The proceedings were closely watched by the River Magistrate on the part of the Chinese Government; indeed, he and his soldiers seemed to take an active interest in all that was going on.

Eight or nine men made allotments to their families of from one to two dollars per month during their absence.

These people will be shipped this afternoon or to-morrow morning, by a steamer to Hong Kong, where they are about to sail for British Guiana in the "Whirlwind."

I annex a note of the probable number and composition of the emigrants in that vessel, as given me by Mr. Austin.

That gentleman's ideas are remarkable for practical humanity and common sense; and the Emigration Board appear to me to be eminently fortunate in having secured the services of a person possessed of such tact, prudence, and liberal temper.

I inclose a blank form of the contract signed.

Altogether, considering the short period the establishment has been in existence, and the consequent incompleteness of some arrangements which must tend to increase the comfort of the emigrants, I was well satisfied with what I saw.

But I fear much any less security for the character of the arrangement, or any less pains taken in ascertaining the *bonâ fide* wishes of the emigrants, will lead the way to a recurrence of former abuses. Nothing but a constant and vigilant European superintendence, acting like the Customs with the authority of the Chinese Government, can be permanently effective.

The French Emigration Agent has established a hong close to Mr. Austin's.

M. Vargas, the Spanish Agent, finding his business much interrupted at Whampoa, has also applied for permission to open an Agency.

Mr. Austin intends to bring the "Red Ridinghood" to Canton, and anchor her off the Shameen.

Inclosure 2 in No. 10.

Classified Note of Emigrants estimated to sail by "Whirlwind."

	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Total.
On board "Whirlwind":—						
Families	37	40	7	4	1	89
Single men	133	..	..	..	..	133
In Hong Kong Depôt	13	7	..	..	..	20
From Canton	127	..	..	..	..	127
	310	47	7	4	1	369

Inclosure 3 in No. 10.

Form of Contract.

ARTICLES of Agreement, made this day of , in the year of the Christian Era , being the day of the month of the year of the reign of Hien-fung, according to the Chinese Imperial Calendar, Between , native of China, of the one part, and John Gardiner Austin, Special Agent of the British Government for the regulating and encouragement of emigration from China to the British West Indies, of the other part, as follows:—The said , in consideration of the covenants, agreements, and stipulations hereinafter entered into by the said J. G. Austin, doth hereby promise and agree to and with the said J. G. Austin, his executors, administrators, and assigns, in manner and form following, that is to say:—

1. That he, the said shall and will so soon as he shall be required by the said J. G. Austin, embark on board the British ship , now lying at anchor in and bound for the British Colony of , and remain on board the said ship henceforward until she proceeds to sea, and shall then proceed as a passenger on board the said ship, to aforesaid, for the purpose of carrying out the stipulations hereinafter contained on the part of the said .

2. That the said shall and will from time to time, and at all times during the term of five years, to be computed from the day of the date of the arrival of the said ship in the said Colony of , well, faithfully, and diligently, and according to the best of his skill and ability, work and serve as an agricultural labourer, in the said Colony of , according to the provisions hereinafter contained.

3. That the said shall and will work as such labourer as aforesaid for the space of seven hours and-a-half of each day during the aforesaid term of five years, on such estate as may be pointed out by the Governor of the said Colony of , with a reservation of not less than five days to be set apart during each year as holidays at the China New Year by the said Governor, and of every Sabbath-day. And in consideration of the agreement herein contained on the part of the said , the said J. G. Austin hereby promises and agrees to and with the said in manner following, that is to say:—

4. That the said J. G. Austin shall provide the said with a free passage to the said Colony of , and shall supply him gratuitously with such food and clothing as may be necessary for the voyage.

5. That so long as the said shall continue and be employed as such agricultural labourer as aforesaid, and perform the agreements on his part hereinbefore contained, he the said J. G. Austin shall well and truly pay or cause to be paid to the said , wages at the rate of four dollars per calendar month, and shall provide or cause to be provided for the said , during the same service, food, house, garden ground, and medical attendance, all free of expense to the said , provided always and it is hereby agreed that it shall be at the option of the said , at any time within twelve months of his arrival in the said Colony of to elect to be paid for his services by the task, in the same way as all labourers not under special contract for service for terms of years in the said Colony; and that in the event of the said electing to be paid as last hereinbefore mentioned, then and in such case the said shall not be entitled to receive food, but house, garden ground, and medical attendance shall still be furnished to him free of charge.

6. That the said J. G. Austin shall on demand of the said , so soon as he shall embark on board the said ship , for the purpose of carrying out the terms of this agreement, make an advance on account of wages to the said to the extent of dollars, shall pay or cause to be paid monthly to the assigns or nominees of the said in China, one part of the wages to be earned by the said in the said Colony of , the first payment to be made on the day of the date of the embarkation of the said on board the said ship : Provided always and it is hereby agreed that any sum so advanced to the said as aforesaid, shall be stopped or deducted

out of the wages to be earned by the said , at the rate of one dollar per month, and that any payments so made as aforesaid monthly to the assigns or nominees of the said in China, shall be stopped or deducted in equal amounts monthly from the wages to be earned by the said

7. That the said shall be at liberty to determine this agreement at the expiration of the first or any subsequent year of its subsistence, upon payment of a sum of money equal to the cost of his passage from China to the said Colony of , namely, seventy-five dollars, subject to a deduction of one-fifth of the said amount for and in respect of each year during which the said shall have served as such agricultural labourer as aforesaid, under the terms of this agreement.

8. That the said J. G. Austin shall provide or cause to be provided for the said during such period as he continues to serve under the terms of this agreement, with the means of corresponding monthly free of expense with his relatives in China, and of remitting money to them.

(Signed)

(Signed)

This done in duplicate (each of the parties aforesaid retaining one copy) at on the day of , in the year of our Lord 18 , in the presence of the undersigned, who declare that this contract has been signed willingly and with full knowledge of its contents by the said

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Inclosure 4 in No. 10.

Acting Consul Winchester to Mr. Bruce.

(Extract.) *Canton, December* 26, 1859.

I HAD an opportunity of satisfying myself, during a visit to Whampoa, that, notwithstanding the supineness of the Chinese river police, kidnapping has, on the whole, decreased. The attention which the subject has recently excited, and the mere presence of an authorized officer, have made both Chinese and foreigners more cautious. Many questionable cases, doubtless, still occur.

The French Emigration House is opened. The main differences between their proposals and the English are that the contract is for eight years, that there is no provision to enable the emigrant to elect to take his chance as an independent labourer, and that the inducements for families to emigrate are on a rather narrow scale.

The Spanish scheme is not so far advanced, and the contracts in use at Macao are, I believe, inadmissible; for they expressly take away the right of the labourer to appeal to the laws which the Government of Cuba has made for the protection of immigrants.

The first company of 119 emigrants, engaged for Demerara, embarked cheerfully in a river steamer for Hong Kong, and the "Red Riding Hood," of 720 tons, has arrived off the Shameen, and will take her passengers directly from the Emigration House.

The whole Department is under the superintendence of the foreign military police, aided by the Chinese River Magistrate, and a system of orderly supervision, created by Mr. Parkes, is growing.

No. 11.

Acting Consul Winchester to Mr. Hammond.—(Received February 28.)

(Extract.) *Canton, January* 12, 1860.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, copies of my despatches of the 9th and 11th instant, with their inclosures, to the address of Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary, reporting on certain occurrences in connection with the coolie traffic at Whampoa and Macao.

Inclosure 1 in No. 11.

Acting Consul Winchester to Mr. Bruce.

(Extract.) *Canton, January* 9, 1860.

I HAVE the honour to report the continuance of tranquillity at this port. Nothing of an unusual character has occurred, except in connection with the efforts made by the Governor-General to reclaim kidnapped Chinese from the several foreign ships in which they were detained at Whampoa.

Referring to a former despatch, dated the 26th December, in which I mentioned having visited the anchorage, and that the result of inquiries made on the spot seemed to lead to the conclusion that these practices had decreased on the whole, notwithstanding the apathy of the Governor-General's guard-boats, I regret to report that such conclusion was formed too hastily. The Spanish Agents had entered into engagements with vessels* to the extent of nearly half a million of dollars, and the necessity of filling and dispatching such expensive ships doubtless led the charterers to stimulate their crimps and agents to increased exertions. At all events, in the course of two or three days, no fewer than eight petitions were presented, through the Allied Commissioners, to the Governor-General. This high officer addressed the United States' Consul, requesting that he would allow a Chinese officer to accompany him on board the coolie vessels, for the purpose of searching out the men indicated in the petitions. To this Mr. Perry assented, and while they were on board the vessel (the "Messenger") numbers of coolies crowded round the officer, begging to be liberated. The identical men whom the officer was sent to seek were found and brought back to Canton.

On the receipt of his subordinate's report, Laou again addressed the United States' Consul, to the effect that the facts disclosed by the antecedent visit inferred the illegal detention on board American vessels of numerous Chinese, and that it was desirable that a thorough examination of the coolies should be made. The American vessels, however, were of too heavy a draught to cross the barrier, and it was agreed that a Chinese Commission, including the Nanhai and Pwan-yu magistrates, should proceed with Mr. Perry to Whampoa, and arrange for the landing of the coolies to meet this investigation. The Governor-General applied to the Allied Commissioners for an interpreter to attend his Commission, and it was settled that it should have the services of Mr. W. S. F. Mayers. This arrangement was very acceptable to Mr. Perry, whose interpreter is a missionary gentleman, speaking only the local dialect.

It appears that about fifty men, who declared themselves willing to proceed to sea, were taken out of the "Messenger," "Governor Morton," and "Pioneer."

After visiting the American ships, the Commission went to an Oldenburg ship called the "Fanny Kirchner." Here they were not allowed to make any examination till the arrival of M. von Carlowitz. On being admitted to the ship seven or eight coolies were brought before them as the whole lading; but these men having stated that there were many more, the whole were at length got on deck. Out of something more than 100 Chinese, 50 claimed the protection of the mandarins. At first there was an unwillingness on the part of the Consul to allow the men to be taken away; but on seeing the mandarins preparing to depart without them, a wild shout of despair arose, and the Consul and captain were only too glad to call in the assistance of the mandarins, who were at length permitted to remove fifty men.

Arrived at Canton, Laou refused to accept these results from his officers as an execution of the commission intrusted to them. He again wrote to the United States' Consul, requiring 578 coolies remaining in the ships to be brought to Canton, and announcing that the clearance of the "Messenger," which was about to leave for Macao, would be stopped. The result of this move was that the "Messenger" immediately transshipped as many of her coolies as possible into a small American steamer called the "Mei-lie," which left for Macao. The rest which she could not take were put into native boats, and some of these have since been recovered by the Custom-house chartered steamer the "Cum-fa."

The "Fanny Kirchner" got quit of her remaining coolies in the same way,

* "Messenger," "Governor Morton," "Pioneer," "Kitty Simpson," "Live Yankee," "F. Kirchner."

giving them over to a Spanish agent. It appears that both the master and chief officer of this ship are recently dead, that their deaths are popularly attributed to the excitement and apprehension which their employment in this traffic had created, and that her charter had been made over to the "Live Yankee," which was getting ready to relieve her of her freight.

Two Portuguese who were taken in the boats were, after examination, delivered over to the Portuguese Consul, and are now detained at his request in the Allied Commissioners' yamun until they can be sent to Macao.

I have the honour to inclose copy of a despatch from Mr. Cleverly.

Inclosure 2 in No. 11.

Mr. Cleverly to Acting Consul Winchester.

Sir, *Macao, December* 24, 1859.

THE setting in of the north-east monsoon has been attended, as I anticipated, with more activity in the emigration of Chinese coolies from this place; and, during the last quarter, two large ships have sailed with 850 and 1,150 respectively. The former of these was lost, and all the passengers, with a part of the ship's crew, are believed to have perished; the latter, since her departure, has not been reported.

This vessel, the "Norway," had been fitted up with great care, and at much expense, and was in every respect what an emigrant ship should be, no pains having been spared to render the passengers comfortable and the ship secure from outbreak or attack; and, so well have these precautions been planned and executed, that I doubt not the voyage will prove successful.

With respect to the former vessel, the published accounts of her loss, and the dreadful tragedy which succeeded, will afford the best information within my reach; but there is one circumstance of much importance connected with the outbreak of the Chinese, which preceded the wreck a few days, and which I have not noticed in the public prints. This was related to me by the surgeon of the vessel, and the author of the most interesting account of her loss.

It was ascertained, after the suppression of the attack, that there was a man on board sufficiently educated in foreign vessels to take entire charge of one; and the business-like manner in which the coolies furled sails, and took other judicious precautions, before the boat lost sight of the wreck, clearly showed that he was supported by many trained Chinese seamen. This is a significant fact, not only as regards the evident preconcerted attempt to seize the vessel, but as evidencing a strong motive (stronger than the distant one of profit in a far country) for voluntary enlistment, with the prospect of the speedy plunder of the ship, and the immediate return of the pirates to their former congenial occupation.

The number of these miscreants was, of course, comparatively small; but a moment's consideration of the character, habits, and abject poverty of the bulk of the emigrants, will show how likely they were to become the tools—probably, eventually, the victims—of their bolder countrymen. The men who form the great bulk of these shipments are, it would seem, collected from the very poorest; men who have probably lived all their days in poverty the most abject, outcasts from all communion with a better class, and too deficient in common intelligence to better their lot; who, perhaps, until within the walls of a barracoon, have never tasted one decent meal, and have neither the industry nor ability to secure one. Beggars in purse, energy, and intellect, who will say that emigration to them is not a boon—a boon the advantages of which in their own land they never could hope to have attained?

I was most forcibly struck by this on a late visit to the principal barracoon now in operation here, where I saw collected some 500 men and boys destined for the "Norway." They appeared contented, happy, and healthy; but I looked in vain among them for a single instance of that intelligence of countenance so common in a slightly better class of Southern Chinese. They were, for the most part, young and undersized, and, from their general appearance, could have little to hope for in their own country but such precarious subsistence as begging

might afford. The place was well secured and watched, but, in every other respect, excellent in its arrangements.

The men were clean and well dressed, the food plentiful and good, their amusement as amply provided for as space would permit, and each man was daily supplied with a few cash to enable him to buy (on the premises, indeed) such luxuries as their wretched life had known and could appreciate. In everything, except their liberty, were they more cared for, more happy, than they ever had been, and few, indeed, among them appeared to have sensibility enough to feel the loss of that. To these, and such as these, the certainty of subsistence, of a daily meal for moderate daily labour, is a mercy; but it remains to be proved if they will ever repay to their employers the cost of their immigration. Unless their labour be light, and not beyond the reach of the meanest capacity, I imagine they will prove a loss. These men were safely shipped on board the "Norway," and time only can show the value of my surmise.

I have, &c.

(Signed) O. CLEVERLY.

Inclosure 3 in No. 11.

Acting Consul Winchester to Mr. Bruce.

Sir *Canton, January* 11, 1860.

SINCE the closing of my general despatch of the 9th instant, I have received Mr. Vice-Consul Hale's monthly report (copy inclosed) on coolie and emigration proceedings at Whampoa.

Mr. Hale's letter goes over very much the same grounds as my own; but it contains some additional information with reference to the movements of the coolie-ships, and an account of the praiseworthy conduct of Constable Band, in rescuing an unhappy victim from the voluntary death preferred to a separation from his country.

I hear from M. de Trenqualye that 100 emigrants have gone on board the French ship "Galilée;" and the inquiries I have made in various quarters are to the effect that the French emigration measures, notwithstanding the inferior terms which the Agent offers, have been properly conducted.

I understand that the demand for tonnage-dues on coolie-ships is a first step towards placing in the hands of the Customs the power to satisfy themselves that all persons taken from the port are voluntary emigrants. This result I have long wished for.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES A. WINCHESTER.

Inclosure 4 in No. 11.

Vice-Consul Hale to Acting Consul Winchester.

Sir, *Whampoa, January* 9, 1860.

SINCE my last report on Chinese emigration and the coolie trade at this anchorage, some changes have taken place. I have the honour to submit the following particulars relating thereto:—

On the 13th of last month, the Dutch barque "Sooloo," chartered for a coolie receiving-ship, was compelled by the Dutch Consul at Canton to throw up her charter.

On the 30th ultimo, the American ship "Governor Morton," and likewise the American vessel "Pioneer," trans-shipped their coolies to the American ship "Messenger."

On the 30th ultimo, the "Messenger" was reported to be ready for sea, having on board from 700 to 800 coolies. She dropped down to the second bar, and was boarded on the 3rd instant by some Chinese officers from the American steamer "Cum-fa," chartered, and at present employed, by the Custom-house officials. I am told about 50 coolies, who, on examination, were unwilling to proceed to Havana, were delivered up to the mandarins. I am also informed

that the "Messenger" has sent all the coolies which she had remaining on board to Macao, and that the master has been summoned to Canton by the United States' Consul, who has refused to give up the ship's papers, pending further examination.

The Peruvian ship "Westward Ho," chartered for Callao, will not embark coolies at this anchorage.

The French ship "Galilée," and the Spanish barque "Santa Lucie," have both been placed on the berth to take coolies, but none have been engaged up to date.

The French ship "Ville de Lima" sailed from hence for Macao on the 21st ultimo, without coolies.

On the 4th instant, several Chinese officials, accompanied by an European interpreter, boarded the Oldenburg barque "Fanny Kirchner;" the Consul for Oldenburg was, I am informed, also present. All the coolies on board were ordered on deck, and were questioned as to their willingness to go to Havana or otherwise; about 50 of them were taken away by the mandarins, and about 30, having expressed their desire to sail, were placed on board the American ship "Kitty Simpson" on the 5th instant.

In conclusion, I have great pleasure in recording the good service rendered by Constable Band, attached to this Vice-Consulate, under the following circumstances:—On the 28th ultimo, about 2 o'clock P.M., the constable was going his daily rounds, when he heard the cry for help from a Chinaman in the water; he immediately went to his assistance, and took him in the Consular boat to a house at Bamboo Town, where he was supplied with dry clothing, and afterwards sent back to his native place. The name of the rescued Chinaman is Ah-cheen, belonging to a place Sa-chuen, a short distance below the second bar. It appears that a native of the same village engaged him as cook to reside at New Town. When the boat conveying them was abreast the coolie receiving-vessels, the boatman ran alongside one of them, and endeavoured to force Ah-cheen on board, but he resisted, jumped overboard, and was swimming for Bamboo Town, when his cries attracted the attention of the constable, who picked him up, and probably saved the poor fellow from a watery grave.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDC. HOWE HALE.

No. 12.

Sir E. Lugard to Mr. Hammond.—(Received March 12.)

Sir, *War Office, March* 10, 1860.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for War to transmit to you, for the information of Lord John Russell, the accompanying copy of a despatch from Major-General Sir C. T. van Straubenzee, together with its inclosures, showing the arrangements which have been agreed upon for carrying on the emigration of Chinese to Martinique and Cuba.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD LUGARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 12.

Major-General Sir C. T. van Straubenzee to Mr. Sidney Herbert.

Sir, *Head-Quarters, Hong Kong, January* 14, 1860.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your information, copies of the contracts submitted to the Allied Commissioners, for the approval of the Allied Commanders, by certain parties desirous of obtaining emigrants from China to the Island of Martinique and Cuba. To the former, being approved by the French Commandant, I did not offer any objection, though I could have wished some clauses expunged or altered; and the French Emigration House is consequently in full operation.

To the two contracts for Havana, in conjunction with Captain D'Aboville,

I made objection; but being most anxious to do anything that might possibly put a stop to the disgraceful trade in kidnapping men going on at Whampoa and Macao (almost wholly in American ships), we have proposed to these applicants that they should open houses on the terms of the French or English establishments, and that the allied authorities would then give them the same assistance in obtaining houses, and recognize their establishments as those of our own nations.

The disgraceful abuses in the kidnapping trade have called forth the energetic remonstrances of his Excellency the Governor-General of these provinces, Laou; and his Excellency having officially called upon the Allied Commanders for their advice and assistance, Rear-Admiral Hope, Captain D'Aboville, and myself, have addressed a letter to the Consuls of all nations at Canton, calling upon them to devise measures to arrest so great an evil, not only on the grounds of right, justice, and humanity, but also on personal grounds, as the feeling excited against foreigners by this iniquitous traffic, though it may be kept down by the large allied force now occupying Canton, will probably burst forth to the destruction of some individuals when that force is hereafter removed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. T. VAN STRAUBENZEE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 12.

Emigrant's Contract of Engagement with Don Roman Bidau.

Name. . Province .
Age . Profession . .

I , a native of , in China, aged , acknowledge that I have agreed with Don R. Bidau, Agent for Messrs. J. M. Morales and Co., to what is expressed in the following clauses:

1. I am bound from the present to embark for Havana, in the Island of Cuba, on board such vessel as shall be appointed by the said Señor Bidau.

2. I am also bound and subject for a term of eight years to labour in the said Island of Cuba at the orders of Messrs. J. M. Morales and Co., or of the person to whom they may transfer this contract, to do which I authorize them, in all descriptions of work accustomed there, in the country, the towns, or wherever they may place me, whether it be in private houses, establishments of any description of manufacture or art, or in sugar-mills, tobacco plantations, coffee plantations, cattle farms, steed pastures, farms, and whatever appertains to urban or rural occupations, of whatever kind they may be.

3. The eight years' engagement which I have contracted in the preceding Article shall commence to count from the eighth day after my arrival in the port of Havana, provide that I arrive in good health, and from the eighth day after my leaving the hospital or infirmary if I arrive in ill health, or incapable of work at the time of my landing.

4. The hours during which I am to labour will depend upon the description of work in which I shall be employed, and upon the application required by the said work, to be left to the judgment of the master at whose orders I shall be placed; provided always that my consecutive hours of repose are allowed me in every twenty-four hours, besides the time requisite for dinner and breakfast, conformably with the hours observed in these matters with the other hired labourers in the island.

5. Besides the hours of repose on working days, I cannot be compelled on holidays to execute more labour than that which of necessity must be performed on such days, according to the kind of task in which I may be employed.

6. I also subject myself to the order and discipline observed in the establishment, workshop, estate, or private house, where I shall be placed.

7. For no reason, and under no pretext, can I, during the eight years for which I am bound in this contract, refuse my service to the master who will take me, nor escape, nor attempt to do so, for any cause whatsoever.

8. With regard to the contingency of sickness, I agree and stipulate that if my illness exceed one week in duration, my wages shall be suspended and shall

not again begin to be due until my recovery, or, in other words, until my health allows me to employ myself again in the service of my master.

Don R. Bidau, for his part, contracts with me :—

1. That, from the day when the eight years of my engagement commence to count, my wages at 4 dollars per month shall also begin.

2. That I shall be provided with daily rations of 8 oz. of salt meat, 2½ lbs. of yams, and other wholesome and nutritious food.

3. That, during illness, I shall be provided in the infirmary with such assistance as my complaints require, with the comforts, medicines, and treatment called for by my complaints and requisite for my preservation, for however long a time it may be.

4. The same Señor Bidau will advance me 8 dollars in gold or silver for my outfit on the voyage I am about to undertake. He will also supply me with four changes of clothing, a coverlid, and other necessaries, which, amounting to 4 dollars, make; together with the 8 dollars advanced, the sum of 12 dollars, which I will repay at Havana to the order of Messrs. J. M. Morales and Co., by means of a monthly deduction of 1 dollar per month from my salary by the party to whom this contract will be transferred. It is understood that on no other account can any deduction be made from my wages.

5. That two changes of clothing, one woollen shirt, and a blanket, be given me every year.

6. The said Señor Bidau and his principals are answerable for my passage to Havana, and my maintenance during the voyage.

7. Don R. Bidau engages to pay me, by way of bounty, the sum of 20 dollars on the day of my embarkation on board the vessel to sail for Havana. This sum of 20 dollars, being a bounty, can never in any manner be deducted from my wages at the Havana.

I declare that I have received in cash and clothing, as detailed in Article 4, the sum of 12 dollars there mentioned, which I will restore in Havana in the manner stipulated in the said Article.

I also acknowledge that I have received the sum of 20 dollars bounty mentioned in Article 7.

I further acknowledge that I agree to the wages stipulated in this contract.

And in testimony that we will mutually accomplish the conditions which stand stated in this document, we, the two contracting parties, sign two copies of one tenour and effect.

Canton, , 18 .

For Messrs. J. M. Morales & Co.,
(Signed) R. BIDAU.

Inclosure 3 in No. 12.

Emigrant's Contract of Engagement with MM. Gastel, Malavois, and Assier.

THE Undersigned, , native of , in China, aged years, has agreed with MM. Gastel, Malavois, and Assier, to the following :—

1. I engage myself, from the present time, to embark for Martinique, in any ship the persons aforesaid shall indicate.

2. I engage myself equally for a space of eight years to labour in the aforesaid Colony, under the orders of MM. Gastel, Malavois, and Assier, or of the persons to whom they shall transfer this present contract, to do which I authorize them, obliging myself to perform all kinds of labour in that country, both in the country and town; nor shall it matter where they call upon me, whether in particular houses, or establishments of whatever kind, of industry or art, or in plantations, farms, or in general; it is indifferent what sort of work it is, either in country or town.

3. The eight years for which I engage myself in the preceding Article shall be reckoned from the eighth day after my arrival at the said port of Martinique, if I arrive in good health, and in the event of my being ill on my arrival and incapable of work, eight days after I have left the hospital or infirmary.

These eight consecutive years will be composed of ninety-six months, each month composed of twenty-six days of complete and effective labour. The wages will not be due until after twenty-six days of labour.

4. The hours during which I am to labour will depend on the nature of the work given me to perform, and the care which it is necessary to bestow on it, always according to myself each day the time for repose, and for dinner and breakfast, according to the custom already followed with European labourers in the said country.

5. Apart from the hours of repose no one shall be able to make me work on Sundays but according to the established customs applied to Europeans.

6. I submit myself to the order and discipline which is observed in the establishment, workshop, farm, or dwelling-house to which I am appointed, on the condition, well understood, that all cause of complaint that I shall have are to be referred to the legal authorities.

7. I engage myself to submit, for each day's absence without legitimate reason, independently of the loss of salary for that day, to a fine of a second day's salary, under the title of interest for damage.

8. In case of illness exceeding eight days' duration, it is agreed that my salary shall be suspended, and that it shall not commence again until my recovery.

9. On Sundays and fêtes I may employ my time in working for myself in a plot of ground that shall be allotted me, and which I may cultivate if, at the same time, I am not engaged in domestic service; and in that case, because the labours are much lighter, I shall have no claim to these advantages, but I shall be granted clothing and shoes over and above those promised to cultivators.

10. If it happens that my services shall no longer be needed, the present contract may be annulled, with my previous consent, and I shall be free to return to my country or go where I please; but in that case an indemnity shall be granted me, the amount of which shall be decided by the authorities of the country.

11. My wife and my eldest daughter shall be employed in the same establishment to which I shall be allotted, and shall gain, without prejudice to my own salary, a sum of two and a-half piastres per month; and it shall be the same with my sons under 14 years of age, after which age they shall gain the same sum as myself under all the conditions.

12. MM. Gastel, Malavois, and Assier shall have the right to endorse this present contract in favour of any one, always, at the same time, adhering to that which is contained in the said contract.

MM. Gastel, Malavois, and Assier hold themselves obliged on their part towards me:—

1. To pay me a salary of 4 piastres per month, in the currency of the Colony, from the day on which the eight years of my engagement commence.

2. To furnish me each day with 8 oz. of salt fish, or other healthy food, and 2½ lbs. of roots and other nutritious provisions.

3. To have given to me in the infirmary all the cares, remedies, and assistance of a doctor, as long as my sufferings or preservation require them.

4. To give me every year two complete suits of clothing, a flannel shirt, and a coverlid.

5. To furnish, gratis, my passage to Martinique and my nourishment on board.

6. To advance me the sum of 8 piastres in silver or gold for the wants of the voyage I am about to undertake.

7. To furnish three suits of clothing, coverlid, and other necessaries, the value of which is 5 piastres, which, with the 8 piastres of the preceding article, make a sum of 13 piastres, which I engage to repay at Martinique to the order of MM. Gastel, Malavois, and Assier, by means of 1 piastre per month kept back from my salary by the person to whom this contract shall be transferred. It remains well understood that reimbursements are to be executed for no other reason whatever.

I acknowledge to have received in money and effects, in fulfilment of the above clause, the sum of 13 piastres, which I engage to repay at Martinique according to the form established in the preceding Article.

In faith of which we will mutually accomplish all that is related in the

document, of which we sign two copies of the same tenour, and having but one effect between us two.

Canton, 1860.

(Signed) P. DE GASTET, MALAVOIS ET ASSIER.

Inclosure 4 in No. 12.

Emigrant's Contract of Engagement with the Asiatic Company of Havana.

(Translation.)

I. , a native of , in China, aged , acknowledge that I have agreed with Messrs. Vargas and Co., to that which is set forth in the following Articles:—

1. I am engaged from the present moment to embark for Havana, in the Island of Cuba, on board such vessel as shall be appointed by the said firm.

2. I am likewise engaged, and subject for a period of eight years, to work in the said island under the orders of Messrs Forrices, Ferran, and Dupiernis, or of any other persons to whom they may transfer this contract, for which transfer they are authorized by myself, in all descriptions of work that are customary there, in the country, the towns, or wherever they may place me, whether it be in private houses, establishments of any description of manufacture or art, or in sugar mills, tobacco plantations, coffee estates, cattle farms, stud-pastures, farms, and whatever appertains to urban or rural occupations, of whatever kind they may be.

3. The eight years' engagement which I have contracted in the terms expressed in the preceding Article shall commence to count from the day on which I shall be allotted to a master, after my arrival at the port of Havana, provided I arrive in good health, and from the eighth day after I leave the hospital or infirmary, if I arrive in ill-health, or incapable of performing labour at the time of my landing.

4. The hours during which I am to labour will depend upon the description of work in which I shall be employed, and upon the application required by the said work, to be left at the discretion of the master to whom I shall be assigned, provided always that my consecutive hours of repose are allowed me every twenty-four hours, beside the time required for dinner and breakfast, conformably with the hours observed in these matters by the other hired labourers in the island.

5. In addition to the hours of repose on working days, I cannot be compelled on Sundays to execute more labour than that which, of necessity, must be performed on such days, according to the kind of task in which I may be employed.

6. I likewise subject myself to the order and discipline observed in the establishment, workshop, estate, or private house where I shall be placed, and submit myself to the system of punishment which in those places is adopted for lack of application and industry, for disobedience of the master's or of his representative's orders, and for all faults not grave enough to require the intervention of the law.

7. For no reason, and under no pretext, can I, during the eight years for which I am bound in this contract, refuse my services to the master who will take me, nor escape, nor attempt to do so, for any cause whatever, nor in virtue of any indemnifications.

8. With regard to the contingency of sickness, I agree and stipulate that if my illness exceed one week in duration, my wages shall be suspended, and shall not again begin to be due until my recovery, or, in other words, until my health allows me to employ myself again in the service of my master.

Messrs. Vargas and Co., in the name of the Company referred to (whom they represent), agree for their part with me:—

1. That from the day when the eight years of my engagement commence to count, my wages, at 4 dollars per month, shall also begin.

2. That I shall be provided with daily rations of 8 oz. of salt meat, 2½ lbs. of yams, and other wholesome and nutritious food.

3. That, during illness, I shall be provided in the infirmary with such assistance as my complaints require, with the comforts, medicines, and treatment

called for by my complaint, and requisite for my preservation, for however long a time it may be.

4. That I shall be supplied with two changes of clothing, a woollen shirt, and a blanket every year.

5. The said firm are answerable for my passage to Havana, and my maintenance on board ship.

6. The said firm will advance me the sum of 8 dollars in gold or silver for my outfit for the voyage I am about to undertake.

7. They will likewise supply me with three changes of clothing, a coverlid, and other necessaries, which amounting to 4 dollars, make, with the sum specified in the preceding clause, a total of 12 dollars, which I will repay in Havana to the order of the said firm, by means of a monthly deduction of one dollar from my pay, by the party to whom this contract will be transferred. It is understood that on no other account can any deduction be made from my wages. I acknowledge that I have received in cash and clothing, as stated in the last clause, the sum of 12 dollars therein mentioned, which I will repay at Havana as agreed in the said clause.

I acknowledge likewise that I agree to the stipulated salary, although I am aware that the wages earned by other free labourers and the slaves in the Island of Cuba are much higher, as I consider the difference compensated by the other advantages which are to be allowed me by my employer, and which appear in this agreement.

And in testimony that we will mutually accomplish the conditions which are stated in this document, we, the two contracting parties, sign two copies of the same tenour and effect.

Dated at , 18 .

No. 13.

Mr. Bruce to Lord J. Russell.—(*Received March* 17.)

(Extract.) *Shanghae, January* 22, 1860.

AS the "Chevy Chase," which leaves to-night, will catch the mail at Hong Kong, I have the honour to inclose a despatch I have received from Mr. Parkes, together with various documents, on the subject of emigration at Whampoa.

I shall not attempt to give an analysis of their contents, for nothing short of the perusal of them *in extenso* will give a just idea of the iniquities of the system, which the efforts of the Chinese authorities, aided by the Allied Commanders-in-chief, have hitherto only partially succeeded in stopping.

But I may record certain conclusions drawn from them, as they bear out the opinions I have, on various occasions, submitted to your Lordship.

1. The conduct of the Chinese officers, as detailed in Mr. Mayers' Report, shows the hopelessness of relying on the action of the Chinese to institute effective examinations on board ship, so as to prevent persons unwilling to emigrate from being carried away.

2. A system of torture and menace is employed by the crimps, which so terrifies the coolie as to make him ready to submit to deportation rather than incur the risk of falling again into their hands.

3. The foreign agents are aware of the violence and fraud practised on their victims; are aware also that that their good intentions (assuming them to be *bonâ fide*) of releasing coolies taken against their will, fail of effect, and yet, stimulated by the profits of the trade, they do not hesitate to continue it.

I have nothing to add to the admirable letter of the Allied Commanders addressed to the Consuls at Canton, requesting them to concert measures for the stoppage of this infamous traffic. If this appeal be successful, I need not point out to your Lordship the importance of a precedent which will show to the Government of China that a friendly concert and co-operation with foreign Powers is the best mode of dealing with practical difficulties.

I trust, my Lord, that this appeal will be supported by a strong expression of opinion from the Treaty Powers to their Agents in this country, and by the cordial adhesion of those nations who wish to enter into commercial relations with China.

I cannot trust myself to express the indignation and shame with which I

feel the stigma thus cast upon the Christian name, nor can I adequately express my conviction that this system of kidnapping, violence, and fraud, if persevered in, will prove fatal alike to the interests of the merchant and to the aspirations of the philanthropist. It checks the kindly feeling which the missionaries are unanimous in declaring has been produced by the honest administration of justice, and by the excellent conduct of the military police and of the troops in general since our occupation of Canton.

The people were beginning to look upon us as friendly and humane, before the crimps and coolie-brokers, stimulated by foreign gold, stepped into the field, and succeeded, as your Lordship will see in Inclosure No. 2, in implicating us in their proceedings, because the Chinese cannot understand how they can be carried on without the permission of those who are virtually the masters of the country.

No Chinaman is safe, in the fields or on the river, from these heartless robbers; even M. Bidau's own Chinese servant was afraid of venturing for a quarter of a mile near Whampoa, for fear he, being in the employment of an Emigrant Agent, should be himself kidnapped.

I cannot refrain from bringing the conduct of Mr. Mayers under your Lordship's favourable notice. This young gentleman has only been in China since the month of June 1859; he has acquired such a knowledge of the language, both oral and written, as to enable him to act as interpreter, and he has shown, in very difficult circumstances, a degree of judgment and firmness which appear to me deserving of the highest commendation.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 13.

Mr. Parkes to Mr. Bruce.

(Extract.) *Canton, January* 12, 1860.

I SHALL endeavour to report in this despatch the endeavours that have been lately made by the Governor-General of these provinces to obtain the release of kidnapped Chinese from the foreign receiving-vessels at Whampoa, and to check the illegal coolie traffic still carried on there, by requiring that the Emigration Regulations recently established by his Excellency shall be observed in the case of all the coolies on board those vessels.

The numerous petitions handed in both to the Allied Commissioners and the Chinese authorities, for the release of men said to have been carried off to the foreign vessels at Whampoa, were the cause of certain officers being dispatched by his Excellency Laou to Whampoa on the 31st December.

In a despatch of that date I reported this circumstance to General van Straubenzee, and it is not necessary that I should here repeat the remarks which I then made on the injury that may result to foreign interests generally, unless this deplorable crime of man-stealing for the supply of the coolie trade be timely checked. I may inclose, however, translations of a few of the petitions that have been delivered to the Commissioners, as these will inform your Excellency that men are not simply decoyed away or kidnapped by stealth, but are often carried off by open force. Tales similar to those set forth in these petitions have often been related to myself and others when we have visited the villages in the neighbourhood of the city, and though the same degree of violence may not be resorted to in the city itself, every kind of seduction is here extensively practised, and thus the name of "kidnapper" inspires among the people a feeling of dread which, it can be seen, might gradually turn into one of animosity to the foreigner, who is considered, and with justice, to be the employer of the former.

Having, at the request of his Excellency Laou, allowed Mr. Mayers to accompany the mandarins sent to Whampoa on the 31st December, in the capacity of interpreter, I am able to inclose a report by that gentleman of their proceedings, and also a Memorandum which contains various interesting particulars as to the manner in which the coolie traffic at that anchorage is conducted. The visit resulted in the release of eight Chinese; but it had also the more

important effect of bringing directly to the notice of his Excellency Laou the fact that in opposition to his circular to the foreign Consuls of November last, three or four American vessels and an Oldenburg barque continued to be engaged in the collection of coolies through the agency of the crimp-boats which now swarm upon this river.

In consequence of this information, and also of the fact that the Chinese officers sent on this occasion had not carried out that part of their instructions which required them (as your Excellency will see from the inclosed letter addressed by his Excellency Laou to the Consuls of the United States and Spain), not to limit their inquiries to the men named in the petitions only, the Governor-General again wrote to the United States' Consul to beg that all the Chinese now known to be on board the three American receiving-vessels might be brought up to Canton in order that they might be formally examined by their own authorities as to their willingness to emigrate, and, if willing then, that they might be properly engaged, and have the terms of their engagement clearly explained to them.

Three officers of rank, the two chief Magistrates of the city and the Military Commandant, were sent with this letter, and in consequence of these officers having come in person to the yamun, and urgently begged the Commissioners to assist them with the services of some one capable of conducting conversation between them and the United States' Consul, I again selected Mr. Mayers (as being wholly unconnected with the Commission), to accompany them; and Mr. Perry, the Consul, having no interpreter of his own, raised no objection whatever to his doing so. The officers were the more anxious to be accompanied by a competent interpreter as their instructions required them to visit the Oldenburg barque "Fanny Kirchner," and, as far as they were then informed, there was no Consular Representative of that State in Canton to whom they could look for assistance.

At the time when these officers were on the point of being despatched, his Excellency Laou appears to have received information that the American ship "Messenger" was on the point of proceeding to sea with a full cargo of upwards of 600 coolies; and he accordingly wrote the inclosed letter to Mr. Perry, acquainting him with the fact, and begging him to detain the vessel.

As already stated, Laou had demanded that the coolies on board all the receiving-vessels should be brought to Canton for examination; but this course was not observed; and the mandarins appear to have assented, in direct opposition to their orders, to conduct the examination on board ship, and to have thought a simple question put to the coolie as to whether he was willing or not to emigrate, to be the only form of engagement necessary. They adhered to this course even after they had been deprived, by the violence of one of the American shipmasters, of the assistance of their own interpreter, and when it had consequently become impossible to conduct through the person called a linguist, who belonged to the receiving-ships, any examination of the coolies that could be depended upon. Notwithstanding this circumstance, however, their visit to the ships to which they were sent to receive all the coolies on board, was called a visit for the purpose of examining all the coolies on board; the latter proceeding, if it can be said to have taken place, being directly contrary not only to their orders in this particular case, but to the refusal of the Governor-General to authorize the examination and engagement of coolies at Whampoa. Accordingly, instead of taking delivery of all the coolies on board the vessels, they contented themselves with bringing to Canton fifty-one from the three American ships, and forty-seven from the Oldenburg vessel, all of whom had expressed themselves unwilling to go abroad. In the case of the latter vessel, 50 per cent. were surrendered, but in the former scarcely 10 per cent.; and it is not impossible that the mode of examination may have had something to do with this difference.

For full particulars of the proceedings of these mandarins, which extended over two days and a-half, I beg to recommend to your Excellency's notice the able and interesting report of Mr. Mayers, whose conduct on this occasion has given me much satisfaction. The case is instructive, as showing the incompetency of the Chinese officers, and the readiness with which they will consent to any compromise in matters where they have to maintain a position before foreigners, and to control their acts. They have excuses, of course, always ready for such conduct, and, accordingly, in this instance, they represented to

Laou that the opposition raised by the foreigners to his instructions rendered some deviation from them unavoidable.

Laou, however seeing that he must either disapprove their proceedings or sacrifice the principle for which he had contended in his circular letter, and that there was little hope of putting a stop to kidnapping so long as the receiving-ship system of Whampoa was allowed to go on unchecked, wrote again to Mr. Perry, pointing out the departure from the terms of his previous communication, and again demanding that all the coolies on board the American ships should be brought up to Canton. Simultaneous with this step, his Excellency also desired the Superintendent of Customs to detain the port-clearances of the "Messenger" and "Fanny Kirchner," both of which vessels had been reported ready for sea.

On the day on which this letter was dispatched, the 5th January, Mr. Perry visited the Commissioners, and desired us to accompany him to his Excellency the Governor-General to discuss the question. We readily consented, and after a long interview it was arranged that 578 men, being the number given by Mr. Perry, as all the coolies on board the American ships, and which he said had been collected on board the "Messenger," to complete her cargo, should be brought up to Canton as Laou required; Mr. Perry himself suggesting, as the most convenient mode of doing this, that the "Messenger" herself should, if possible, be brought off Canton.

The details as to the manner in which the coolies were to be landed, examined, and engaged (if, indeed, willing to contract for service in Cuba), were also talked of, but not finally arranged.

The following day his Excellency Laou communicated officially to the Commissioners, for the information of the Allied Commanders, particulars of these proceedings, together with copies of his letters to Mr. Perry, and again begged the advice of the Allied Commanders as to the best mode of effecting the suppression of the receiving-ship system, which lies at the root of all the kidnapping.

Having received the inclosed replies to his circular letter from several of the Consuls, approving of the free system of emigration recently sanctioned, and the interdiction of the Whampoa coolie trade, his Excellency expresses just dissatisfaction at finding that the rules he had laid down in respect to the receiving-ships had not been observed, and inquires whether it is not possible for the foreigners themselves to concert a remedy for the irregularities thus occasioned.

Nothing further having been heard of the movements of the "Messenger," or of her coolies, Laou wrote again to Mr. Perry to inquire whether the ship was coming up to Canton, and if not, to offer means of transport for the coolies from the ship.

The same afternoon Mr. Perry again visited the Commissioners and Laou, and informed the latter that he had heard that all the coolies had been removed from the "Messenger," but he could not say where they had been carried to. Laou again repeated that he must, under all circumstances, look to the Consul for the production of the coolies, and that until they had been produced he could could not consent to give the ship her clearance.

In the end Mr. Perry again consented to go with mandarins to Whampoa, to inquire what had become of the coolies, and to take delivery of whatever number might still be found there; but he also observed that, as a question might, he thought, be raised as to the right of detention in the "Messenger's" case, after all her coolies had been discharged, he should proceed on the 9th to Hong Kong to take the instructions of Mr. Ward.

The same evening his Excellency Laou was informed that the "Messenger's" coolies had been taken from that vessel on the night of the 5th, and forwarded in a river-steamer to Macao. He accordingly wrote to the American Consul the following morning, protesting against this departure from the understanding previously arrived at as to the delivery of the coolies, and on this occasion he also brought a distinct charge against the captains of the American ships for the forcible detention of Chinese on board their vessels. He also addressed himself to Mr. Ward, forwarding copies of all his six letters to Mr. Perry, and begging his Excellency to do justice in the case; and he took the precaution, likewise, of advising the Portuguese Consul of what he had heard, and of protesting

against the coolies from the "Messenger" being received at Macao, should the event prove that they had been conveyed there.

Copies of all these letters have been communicated officially to the Commissioners, in order that they might be laid before the Commanders-in-chief.

The Commissioners, having occasion to visit Laou on the 9th, found with his Excellency Mr. Perry, who had just arrived from Whampoa with 95 coolies, taken from one of the American ships, and was demanding, through the imperfect interpretation of a missionary who could not speak Mandarin, and who, consequently, could not make himself intelligible to Laou, that his Excellency should examine these men, and return at once to Mr. Perry all those who professed themselves willing to go abroad.

We had to assist his Excellency in explaining to Mr. Perry that 578 men, and not 95, were the number that had to be produced; that these men had not only to be asked whether they were willing to go abroad, but also whether they consented to engage themselves under Mr. Vargas' contract, and rightly understood all its conditions; that time, and the observance of certain formalities, was required to transact business of this important nature in a becoming manner; and that the contracts must be produced, and duly executed in the presence of the Chinese and allied authorities, as well as the parties to the contract.

As Mr. Perry demurred to any interference of the allied authorities in respect to these coolies, on the ground that, although brought within the allied jurisdiction, they had been collected in the first instance at Whampoa; and, as as he asserted also that he had not understood that this interference formed part of the understanding of the 5th instant, under which he consented to bring the 578 men up to Canton, the Commissioners offered him the option of taking these 95 men back to the ship. This, however, he declined to do; while the Governor-General and Commissioners, on the other hand, could not consent to the useless examination that he proposed being proceeded with.

The Governor-General having also declined to place the coolies (as proposed by Mr. Perry) on board a boat in the river pending a reference to Mr. Ward, it was eventually arranged that nothing further should be done in the matter until Mr. Perry had consulted Mr. Ward, and that in the meantime the 95 men should be left in the charge of the Governor-General on shore. To prevent mistake, the inclosed note was made of this understanding, and the following morning Mr. Perry left for Macao.

On the 11th, the Spanish Vice-Consul at Canton called upon the Commissioners, for the purpose of stating that he, together with the Spanish Consul-General in China (resident at Macao), had disapproved of Mr. Vargas having continued to collect coolies on board American ships at Whampoa after the issue of Laou's circular of November forbidding the same; but that Mr. Vargas being protected by the United States' flag, they could not further interfere. The coolies on board the "Messenger" were all, he said, on Mr. Vargas' account; and the Consul-General had, further, disapproved of these men having been taken to Macao on the 6th instant, and had recommended Mr. Vargas to return them to Canton.

While making this avowal in the case of Mr. Vargas, the Vice-Consul also begged the Commissioners to favourably entertain an application made by Mr. Castro, another Spanish Agent, to open an Emigration House at Canton, as that gentleman, he said, had ceased to collect coolies at Whampoa from the moment that Laou's circular letter had been notified to him.

The Vice-Consul admitted that he had attested the contracts of the "Messenger's" coolies, which is necessary, it appears, to pass them into Cuba, but had done so, he said, because he had been positively assured that all these men had been examined and passed by mandarins who had been sent by the Governor-General to Whampoa for that special purpose.

While the above steps have been taken in respect to the coolies on board the American ships, his Excellency Laou has been in communication with the Oldenburg Consul on the subject of those embarked in the "Fanny Kirchner." I beg to inclose copies of this part of the correspondence, which will inform your Excellency that Laou has pursued a consistent course, and, as in the case of the "Messenger," requires that all the coolies shall be brought up to Canton before the "Fanny Kirchner" can be allowed to clear.

A letter which we have this day received from the Oldenburg Consul,

inclosing one from M. Bidau, shows that it is the intention of that gentleman to produce these men immediately—he, like Mr. Vargas, having also sent them to Macao. But in reference to M. Bidau's remark that he was wholly ignorant of the prohibitions against the Whampoa receiving-ships, I should observe that his own letter to the Commissioners of the 20th of December, applying for permission to open an Emigration House at Canton, proves that this was not the case, as in the first sentence of that letter M. Bidau says: "Conformément à la circulaire envoyée par son Excellence Laou, Gouverneur de Canton, le 23 Novembre dernier, à MM. les membres du Corps Consulaire, j'ai l'honneur de vous informer," &c.

A letter from the Portuguese Consul to his Excellency Laou, and of Laou's rejoinder repeating his former demand that the "Messenger's" coolies should not be detained at Macao, complete the list of inclosures that I have to forward in this despatch; and it is to be hoped that the reference now being made by Mr. Perry to Mr. Ward will have the effect of hastening the return of these men, and of settling the question in such a manner as will effectually prevent the commission of similar irregularities in future.

P.S. 13th January.—I am now able to add that Mr. Perry has returned from Macao with instructions from Mr. Ward to support the Chinese authorities, as far as lies in his power, in putting a stop to kidnapping on board foreign vessels, and to detain the papers of all vessels that have not complied with the regulations for the shipment of emigrants. Mr. Perry has called this morning on the Commissioners and informed them of Mr. Ward's decision, and in our company he has also visited his Excellency Laou and communicated to him the same result. The consequence, of course, is that until all the coolies that were lately sent away from the "Messenger" and other vessels shall be brought back to Canton, and properly engaged, that ship cannot proceed to sea.

Inclosure 2 in No. 13.

Mr. Parkes to Sir C. T. van Straubenzee.

Sir, *Allied Commissioners' Yamun, December* 31, 1859.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your Excellency's perusal, translation of two out of a number of petitions that, during the last few days, have been presented at the Commissioner's yamun, praying that the allied authorities will aid the petitioners in obtaining the release of their relations whom they state to have been kidnapped, and, in some instances, carried off by force and received on board foreign vessels at the Whampoa anchorage.

I felt that the best thing I could do for the immediate relief of the petitioners was to refer them to his Excellency the Governor-General, and to advise him to place himself in communication with the Consuls of the United States of America and Spain, and propose to those functionaries to accompany officers of his own to Whampoa, and to visit the foreign ships known to be employed there in the irregular collection of Chinese labourers; and his Excellency, acting upon this suggestion, has this day addressed the inclosed letter to the said Consuls, and if they have responded to his invitation the proposed visit to the said ships is now being made. In two out of the five cases which I communicated to his Excellency Laou, the petitioners stated that they could point out the foreign vessels to which their relatives had been conveyed.

Your Excellency doubtless has long since seen that this deplorable question of man-stealing on foreign account, carried on as it is both within and without this city, affects most seriously the interests of the allied force in occupation. For unless the Chinese can be led to discriminate between those foreigners who do and who do not abet these proceedings, we may find ourselves the object of a popular outcry which may prove more dangerous to our position here than any hostility of Government or people, when based on political grounds. More particularly also are these proceedings likely to place in jeopardy the safety of small parties of foreigners when taking recreation in the neighbourhood of the city, and having accidentally seen this opinion endorsed in an account just published of a recent excursion up the East river, I venture to extract from it the following passage:—

" It was, indeed, very sad to hear everywhere complaints about the Slave Trade, and to find that by it the foreigner was evil spoken of in places where no foreigner had ever visited. We were informed that wretches had been kidnapping up the river for above thirty miles, and the people thought in the first instance that we were in connection with the slave-dealers. When assured to the contrary they seemed content, and in a place called Shatong the people requested us, upon our return to Canton, to entreat the English and French authorities to use every influence to stop this terrible trade. The Slave Trade is even at the present time one of the principal topics of conversation, and if the traffic be persevered in, discontent will breed hatred, and the blood of those poor helpless Chinese who have been sacrificed on the altar of Mammon will be avenged on all foreigners who may hereafter venture unprotected into the interior of the country."

I have, &c.
(Signed) HARRY S. PARKES.

Inclosure 3 in No. 13.

Governor-General Laou to the United States' and Spanish Consuls at Canton.

(Translation.)

LAOU, Governor-General, &c., &c.

A declaration to the Consuls of the United States and Spain.

Several of the Chinese people have presented themselves at my office, reporting that there have been of late, in different parts of the country, numbers of kidnapping villains, who seize and decoy honest men, whom they take to Whampoa to sell as pigs (coolies) on board vessels of different foreign nations.

Although many of these men are unable distinctly to point out the ships, or to state of what nations they are, there are still two or three who can point out and testify to the ships that receive cargoes of coolies.

I have also received the report of the military officer, Pao-au-chi, stationed at Whampoa, to the effect that several American, Spanish, Peruvian, and other vessels, are now anchored at Whampoa for the reception of coolies, who, at intervals, are dispatched to Macao.

Whether the kidnapped men alluded to in the petitions received are on board any of these vessels or not, cannot be distinctly affirmed; but as the United States and Spain have appointed Consuls, it is my duty to communicate with them, that they may co-operate in this matter. I have now appointed civil and military officers, accompanied by men able to point out the vessels on board which kidnapped coolies are sold to proceed to Whampoa, and to unite in dealing with this affair.

Accordingly, I dispatch to you this declaration, in order that, on its receipt, you may either proceed in person, or appoint an officer to accompany my deputies, when it will be your duty to go with them and the officer of the River Police, and to board the Spanish and American vessels, and make inquiry.

If the men now reported as kidnapped, or other kidnapped men who have no desire to go abroad, be discovered, they must all be examined, and delivered in full to the deputed officers, to be brought back, for the purpose of being examined and set free.

The equitable character of yourselves as Consuls is an assurance that you will not endure that Chinese kidnappers cause poor people to be torn apart from their relations, and to suffer distress without end; on the contrary, that you will thoroughly and diligently co-operate in this affair, having in mind the existing amity and peace.

This matter must be attended to at once, and admits of no delay, lest the kidnappers, hearing reports, remove to other parts, and the difficulties of the matter be increased.

(Dated December 31, 1859.)

Inclosure 4 in No. 13.

Governor-General Laou to Mr. Perry.

(Translation.)

LAOU, Imperial Commissioner, &c., makes a communication.

Having ordered officers to proceed to Chang-chow (Whampoa), there to search on board American and other vessels for kidnapped men, and to release and bring them back to the city, I have received a report from the officers, stating that on the 10th of the present month they went to Chang-chow, and on examining an American ship discovered a number of kidnapped men. The American Consul would not, however, allow them all to be taken away, and wished them to be questioned on board; nor would he allow the Interpreter that they (the officers) had taken with them to go on board, but obliged them to make use of one on the ship, who was employed by the kidnappers.

Now I find that about the 10th month of the present year the said American Consul communicated with me, requesting that I would depute an officer to assist him in arranging the emigration affairs at Whampoa. I, the Governor, in my reply, stated, that if the Consul transacted this business at Whampoa it was impossible that the officers could manage it without much difficulty, on account of the distance from the city, and that the receiving-ship having no fixed berth would not easily be found.

Consequently, when I this time sent the officers, I ordered them to bring all the men up to the city, in order that each of them might be examined as to their willingness to go abroad, and dealt with accordingly. Their report that an examination has been held on board the ship is directly contrary to the instructions I had given them.

Now if affairs are to be thus managed on board American ships, hereafter Portuguese, Peruvian, Oldenburg, and others, will follow their example; and that being the case, how can affairs be properly managed? I, the Governor, decidedly cannot permit it, and I think that you, the Consul, when you clearly know that affairs are conducted in such a manner, will desire to assist me in setting all in order, that the transaction of public business be not impeded and further complications arise.

I have therefore ordered the said officers to bring all the coolies up to the city, and have deputed a mandarin to give you this communication, wherein I have to request you, the Consul, to act according to my last despatch, and to go with the officers on board, and bring away all the pigs (coolies) that are in the "Messenger" and the other American ships, in all four vessels, and forward them to the city, where an examination may be held with all proper formalities, and the true facts of each case elicited. Those who are willing (to emigrate) shall of course be sent again to the ship, and allowed to proceed to their destination.

If the affair is managed according to the regulations that I, the Governor, have instituted, all will be well; disputes that might arise will be avoided, and we shall be united in one common course of action.

Inclosure 5 in No. 13.

Governor-General Laou to Mr. Perry.

(Translation.)

LAOU, Governor-General of the Two Kwang, &c., makes a declaration with all speed.

Reports have reached me to the effect that there is an American vessel named the "Messenger" at Whampoa, with several hundred coolies on board, who have not been inspected or passed by any Chinese deputed officers. The vessel is to sail this evening or to-morrow morning.

I therefore hasten with all speed to communicate with you. It is my duty to request that you will take measures to detain this vessel, in order to the examination of all the coolies on board, with the inquiry whether they be willing or unwilling to emigrate; after which inquiry the proper measures can be taken in either case. The vessel being American, as Consul of the United States the responsibility rests upon you. If she be not detained it will be impossible, after

her departure, to investigate the cases of the coolies on board; and I apprehend that hereafter numerous petitions will be presented, after investigation has become impossible—a state of affairs which could not be agreeable to yourself.

I have written to the Hoppo of Canton, who will co-operate in this matter, and now communicate to yourself this necessary despatch.

Hien-fung, 9th year, 12th month, 10th day (January 2, 1860).

Inclosure 6 in No. 13.

Governor-General Laou to Mr. Perry.

(Translation.)

A FURTHER declaration.

On the 8th of the present month (December 31, 1859) petitions were received from several of the Chinese people, stating that numbers of honest men have been kidnapped and seized by villains, who have taken them to Whampoa, to sell as pigs (coolies), on board vessels of different foreign nations.

I at once communicated with you, requesting that you would co-operate with Chinese officials, who would take with them the men capable of pointing out the vessels on board which coolies are purchased, and proceeding with you to the vessels, ascertain whether there were on board any kidnapped men who were unwilling to go abroad, and in that event to deliver all such to the Chinese officers, that they might be brought back, examined, and set at liberty.

The deputed officers have returned to the city, and report that, with my declaration, they first visited your residence, from which you were absent on official business, and they were unable to have an interview with you. They accordingly proceeded to Whampoa, and went, accompanied by your Vice-Consul there, on board three American vessels, and discovered six kidnapped men, who have been brought back.

In addition to these, there are on board each of the vessels many tens of Chinese, in some cases upwards of one hundred; and judging from the circumstances that came under the notice of the officers, it appears that there are still many who are unwilling to emigrate.

The Vice-Consul having objected to enter on an investigation, with a view of giving up these coolies, the officers were unable to examine all in detail.

Furthermore, there is an Oldenburg receiving-vessel, on board which there are already many tens of Chinese, none of whom have been submitted to examination.

Now, as regards the affair of engaging labourers, I have already stated that it is not convenient to have receiving-ships at Whampoa, as the prevention of kidnapping is thereby rendered most difficult. I have already sent you a declaration, stating:—

"Kidnappers have been emboldened hitherto to carry on their lawless trade by having receiving-ships to retire to. I find that no cases of this crime occurred before these vessels anchored at Whampoa, and there can be no doubt that the schemes of kidnappers are the offspring of the receiving-ship system.

"But further, establishing a vessel at Whampoa would be like anchoring her out at sea, and would give an ever-increasing impulse to the plots of these vagabonds for decoying people. The place is an out-of-the-way one, where it would not be easy for Chinese and foreign officials to conduct investigations; and kidnappers at present are very numerous.

"An officer, deputed by me, released there some time ago forty-one persons who had been kidnapped, and made prisoners of thirty-six kidnappers, whereupon I beheaded eighteen of the most guilty. Indeed, it is but too apparent that the whole country swarms with these wretches; and were a receiving-ship established, I very much fear that we could not put a stop to the old practice, and that the kidnapping of poor people, forced into an unwilling contract, and the deaths of very many of them, would injure the plans which both you and I wish to devise for putting an end to the evil. This would be most deplorable; rather let the regulations of the office at Canton be generally adopted, and the investigations conducted with the officer I have deputed, thus complying with the fixed rule, and adhering to one uniform plan."

Now the officers whom I deputed return, and report that three receiving-ships are still stationed at Whampoa, which is not in accordance with the spirit of my late declaration. Besides, it is perfectly impossible that I, the Governor-General, having a due regard to the protection of Chinese subjects, can allow 200 or 300 Chinese to be taken abroad by foreigners, without having been first personally examined by Chinese officers, and their willingness to emigrate having been ascertained.

The equitable manner in which the United States' Government have hitherto acted, is an assurance that they also will not suffer this to take place.

I have now specially appointed additional civil and military officers to proceed to the spot, and take the matter in hand.

In addition, I have ordered that in the case of the Oldenburg vessel, which has no Consul, the entire number of coolies on board shall be brought up for examination, that it may not be said by the United States that two modes of action are followed.

Accordingly I forward to you this declaration, in order that, on receipt of my despatch, you may at once co-operate with the officers whom I have deputed, and proceed to Whampoa, there to take all the men on board the three American ships, the same having passed no inspection before their own authorities, and deliver them in full to the officers, to be brought to Canton, for the examination of each in detail, that it may be seen whether they are willing or not to go abroad, after which the proper measures can be taken in each case.

Thus the spirit of my previous declaration may be adhered to, in conformity with the existing amity and peace, and we may avoid the presentation of numbers of petitions from hundreds of the relatives of Chinese subjects, after the possibility of making investigation has passed away, and a stop may be put to the evil of kidnapping.

This is a matter of the utmost importance, wherefore I despatch this further declaration, &c.

Hien-fung, 9th year, 12th month, 10th day (January 2, 1860).

Inclosure 7 in No. 13.

Governor-General Laou to the Allied Commissioners.

(Translation.)

IT is on record that the United States' Consul lately requested permission for the hiring of labourers on board receiving-ships stationed at Whampoa, when I replied to the effect that kidnappers had hitherto been emboldened in their criminal occupations by the existence at Whampoa, and elsewhere, of receiving-ships, on board which to dispose of their victims; and that, beyond a doubt, the receiving-ships are the originating cause of the existence of kidnappers.

Furthermore, Whampoa, a remote locality, is, as it were, out at sea, and the receiving-ships having no fixed berths, would give an ever-increasing impulse to the plots of these villains for decoying people; while it would be difficult for both Chinese and foreign officials to conduct investigations, and I fear it would be impossible to prevent kidnapping and similar evils.

An office should in all cases be established at Canton, and the affair be conducted in conformity with the rules and regulations originally adopted by the English and French.

I have already written minutely and distinctly in reply to Mr. Perry, the United States' Consul, that he might act accordingly, and I also communicated with the Commissioners, in order that you might look into the matter. In addition to this, I forwarded a circular, declaring to the Consuls of all nations that one law exists (for the guidance of all).

In the course of this month, it has been reported by many of the Chinese people that numbers of honest men had been kidnapped, and forcibly carried off by villains who take them to Whampoa to sell as pigs (coolies) on board foreign vessels. Petitions to this effect were received in numbers. It was further reported by deputed officers, that of late several American, Spanish, Peruvian, and Oldenburg receiving-ships have been anchored at Whampoa, on board

which coolies are received and sold. Hereupon I at once appointed civil and military officers, and wrote to the different Consuls to co-operate with them in investigating the matter.

My officers reported that they, in co-operation with the American Vice-Consul, had removed and brought back six kidnapped men; beside whom there were on board each of the vessels several tens of Chinese, in some cases upwards of one hundred, and judging from the circumstances that came under their notice, there must still be many who are unwilling to go abroad.

I again appointed additional officers to go once more on board the ships and make inquiry, and I wrote to the said Consul to co-operate with them, with due diligence, in the matter. These officers report that on arriving at Whampoa they examined a number of coolies on board the American vessels; that the said Consul would not permit them to seek out and bring back each individual, desiring that they should conduct the inquiry on board the ships; and that he would not permit their interpreter to go on board, but compelled them to use the linguist on board the ship, who is, at the same time, the man employed by the coolie brokers as interpreter.

It is not convenient to have receiving-ships anchored at Whampoa, for the receipt and sale of coolies, in putting a stop to the evils of kidnapping. I have already distinctly written this to the United States' Consul, and have also forwarded a circular despatch to the Consuls of other countries, whose replies I have received, to the effect that they would shape their conduct accordingly; and yet there are still receiving-ships at Whampoa loaded with numbers of Chinese. This is very far from being in accordance with my late declaration.

I have repeatedly written to the said Consul to co-operate with my deputed officers in making inquiry, but he has not shown a willingness thoroughly and diligently to take the matter in hand. The result is that honest men, unwilling to go abroad, will be torn from their relatives and friends, and suffer unbounded distress. This, indeed, is widely at variance with my determination, as Governor-General, to protect the Chinese people, and a notable departure from the rules and regulations originally established; nor can I permit it to exist.

The intimate knowledge possessed by the authorities of your own and other countries with what is right before Heaven, and their own equitable characters, are an assurance that they also cannot endure that honest men, for no fault of their own, be kidnapped and distressed.

Now, if this matter be not deeply probed and distinctly dealt with, loud appeals will be made to me by the relatives of the kidnapped men, when it is no longer possible to investigate and act. Besides, in future, other nations will indiscriminately adopt the precedent, and who can say what the result will be? And if the matter be improperly managed, I apprehend that much recrimination and unseemly dispute will ensue, greatly at variance with my wishes in treating with the Consular corps.

Mr. Perry, accompanied by the Commissioners, came yesterday to my yamun, when it was decided, in the first place, that all the Chinese clandestinely shipped on board the receiving-ships established at Whampoa should be delivered in full, and brought to Canton, to await examination by deputed officers, and to be dealt with according to their respective cases. I anticipate no hesitation in this matter.

Further, a rule must be established hereafter, in order to put a stop for ever to the evil of the system of receiving-ships for the purchase of kidnapped men, that the distress of the people may cease, and the existing amity and peace be secured. Rules and regulations must be decided upon for all alike to respect, that we may look forward to a continuance of friendly relations.

Knowing, therefore, that the Allied Commanders-in-chief are men experienced and just, careful and unremitting in the conduct of affairs, and whose opinions will have weight with the foreign community (of Canton), I must request the honourable Commissioners to lay the subject before them, in order that their Excellencies may publicly consult thereon, and having concerted an efficient course of action, speedily advise me of the same, in order that I may communicate with the various Consuls, and urge on them the adoption of one uniform system, to the mutual advantage both of foreigners and Chinese. I believe that my views will be concurred in both by the Commissioners and by the Allied Commanders-in-chief.

"I inclose copies of my correspondence with Mr. Perry, four letters in all, together with the replies received from the different Consuls (to the circular of November).

Hien-fung, 9th year, 12th month, 14th day (January 6, 1860).

Inclosure 8 in No. 13.

Statement by Consul Winchester.

I HAVE received your Excellency's letter stating that "some kidnappers have now been seized at Whampoa, and a number of coolies have been delivered, who state, on examination, that numbers of men have already been shipped. I inclose copies of the depositions of the kidnapped men.

"With reference to the statement of Chên-sz, to the effect that two men, Lai-a-shih and Yeh-a-fu, and that of Tsêng-zi, to the effect that four other men have been shipped, I must ask whether you can investigate this matter for me, and release these men."

On receipt of this despatch I felt great pleasure at your Excellency's effort to put a stop to the sufferings of the people. Kidnapping is a most detestable crime, and is held in deep abhorrence by Great Britain. For many years our vessels have been forbidden to carry cargoes (of coolies), in order to put a stop to this evil. The case, therefore, of the six men now on board foreign ships does not concern British vessels.

It is not within my province to make investigation on board the vessels of other nations, but I have notified the other foreign Consuls, and requested them to take the matter in hand. Immediately on discovery of the men, they must certainly be surrendered.

Statement by Mr. Vanderhoeven, Dutch Consul at Canton.

I have received your Excellency's declaration of the 15th of the 11th month, stating that "there are in China certain villains who kidnap and decoy honest men, whom they clandestinely sell to go abroad. They are known as pig brokers, and inflict great distress upon the country. Rules and regulations must be adopted for their apprehension and punishment, in order to put a stop to the distress of the people.

"With regard to the statement of Chên-sz, that two men, and that of Tsêng-yi that four others, have been shipped on board foreign vessels, can you examine this matter for me, and ascertain the nationality of the vessel on board which they are?"

Holland has hitherto had nothing to do with the hiring of labourers to go abroad, but in case, hereafter, there be a wish to enter on an enterprise of this kind, it will undoubtedly be my duty to order compliance with the established rules. On receipt of your declaration, I at once communicated with my own Government, and I feel certain that they will direct subjects of Holland to act in conformity, in order to obviate all differences.

Among the vessels chartered by French subjects at Whampoa, there is one under the Dutch flag, and I yesterday went on board that vessel, with the two witnesses sent by the French Consul, to make inquiry whether there were any men who had been subjected to compulsion; and after a thorough examination, none such were found. Not one of the names on the list were discovered on board. I replied to this effect to the French Consul, and sent back the two men, with the notice that they could go to Macao, to make inquiry of the men hired by the French, who, until the departure of the vessel, reside at Macao, where they could make inquiry.

It is my duty to reply to your Excellency, giving an account of the investigation I conducted.

Further Statement by Mr. Vanderhoeven.

As I was on the point of replying to your Excellency's declaration of the 15th of the 11th month, I received your declaration of the 29th to the following effect:—"If hereafter it be desired to engage in the enterprise of hiring labourers, the established regulations must be adhered to, and an office opened at Canton. None can be allowed elsewhere than at that city, nor may receiving-ships be used."

A copy of your reply to the American Consul's declaration was also inclosed.

When the intentions of the United States are considered, it appears that the evil of kidnapping can be obviated,* but at Whampoa at present, the sums paid to agents for procuring labourers are considerable, and that such should be the case is exceedingly improper. The circumstances must be fully investigated, when a safe conclusion may be arrived at.

I therefore forwarded a copy of your Excellency's declaration to the captain of the Dutch vessel chartered by a French subject at Macao, for his perusal and instruction; forbidding him hereafter to receive on board labourers of this description, as it would be contrary to the local regulations, and not in accordance with the principles of justice.

Your Excellency attaches great importance to the rules and regulations established with regard to this matter, and I have forwarded copies to my own Government for their guidance.

Statement by Mr. Perry, United States' Consul at Canton.

I have received your Excellency's declaration stating that kidnappers have been rigorously searched for and seized, and that a number of kidnapped men have been delivered. Also that you have authorized the establishment of a new code of regulations, permitting the emigration of Chinese as labourers.

In the case of Chên-sz and Tsêng-zi, who stated that six men have been kidnapped, you request me to make inquiry. I am greatly pleased with the regulations established by your Excellency, authorizing the engagement of Chinese to go abroad as labourers; and with due diligence will rigorously seize and bring to justice the villains who are guilty of kidnapping. I have already apprehended four kidnappers, who were delivered to the Pwan-yü Magistrate for trial.

On board the vessel of my nation there are no men unwilling to emigrate as labourers, nor any who have been subjected to compulsion. Some time ago I minutely inspected all the ships, and strict precautionary measures have been taken to prevent crimes of this grave description. I have already personally set at liberty not a few men who at first were willing to go abroad; but who, after receiving the prescribed payment, asserted their unwillingness to go.

With reference to the statement of Chên-sz and Tsêng-zi, that six men have been kidnapped, I have examined all the American vessels, but they are on board none of them, and it appears that they must be on board ships of some other nation.

I shall be delighted to assist your Excellency in putting a stop to the detestable crime of kidnapping, and I accordingly notify you to this effect.

If any Americans are leagued with Chinese for this lawless purpose of kidnapping, I shall assuredly deal with them with the utmost severity.

[*Note.*—In the foregoing four translations of documents which are themselves translations into Chinese, there are a few sentences in which the exceeding ambiguity of the original has rendered a close adherence to the Chinese necessary, regardless of the apparent meaning.—W. S. F. Mayers.]

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* This seems to be the meaning of the Consul: the Chinese is unintelligible—it may mean, "I fear that kidnapping cannot be prevented."—Translator.

Inclosure 9 in No. 13.

Governor-General Laou to Mr. Perry.

(Translation.)

LAOU, Governor-General, &c.

A declaration to the United States' Consul, for the purpose of making inquiry.

When, on the 13th of this month (January 5), you paid me a personal visit at my official residence, it was arranged between us that the 578 coolies on board the American ship "Messenger" should be returned in full to the city for examination, after which the proper measures could be taken in each case; and you personally stated that the "Messenger" herself must be brought to Canton, when it would be easy to dispatch the matter. I agreed to this, and you took your leave, since when two days have elapsed, and I have heard nothing of the arrival of the "Messenger," nor do I know what course it is your intention to pursue.

If it is not convenient for the "Messenger" to come to Canton, and if you purpose bringing the men up to the city in boats, you should previously give me notice to that effect; for, as there are coolies to the large number of 578, a place must be prepared for their reception.

Furthermore, in the case of your bringing them up in boats, and finding it difficult to make arrangements for that purpose, I, the Governor-General, will appoint officers, with boats, and a force to assist you in bringing them up to Canton.

(Dated January 7, 1860.)

Inclosure 10 in No. 13.

Governor-General Laou to Mr. Perry.

(Translation.)

LAOU, Governor-General, &c., makes a declaration.

It is reported to me that, on the night of January 5, the small steamer "Mei-li" took from the "Messenger," one of the four American ships which have coolies on board at Whampoa, several hundreds of coolies, whose exact number is not known. As soon as they were on board she left the port.

It is also reported that there are still the three American ships "Governor Morton," "Pioneer," and "Kitty Simpson," all having cargoes of coolies, to the number of 100 or 200 in each case.

It is also reported that the American ship "Live Yankee," lately arrived at Whampoa, is also to receive a cargo of coolies.

The receipt of these reports has caused me surprise beyond measure. On the 5th of January you, the Consul, came personally to my official residence, when it was decided between us that the 578 coolies, whom you stated, yourself, to be on board the "Messenger," should be brought back in full to Canton for examination; and I intended at once to appoint an officer to proceed, with boats and a force, to take charge of the men. Shortly afterwards, you personally suggested that the men should be brought to Canton on board the "Messenger" herself, for the sake of convenience and dispatch; to which proposal I at once agreed.

The "Messenger," however, has not by any means complied with this arrangement, and come to Canton; but, on the contrary, on the night of the 5th of January, clandestinely transferred to the "Mei-li" steamer some hundreds of the coolies whom she had on board, and who were taken out of the port.

On the 7th of January you again visited me, stating that you had heard that the "Messenger" had transshipped all the coolies on board another vessel.

This is greatly at variance with our previous arrangement. Has the captain of this American vessel deceived me, the Governor-General, or you, his Consul? The matter is utterly inexplicable.

In Article XI of the Treaty lately concluded with the United States, it is stated that "citizens of the United States, either on shore or in any merchant-vessel, who may insult, trouble, or wound the persons or injure the property of Chinese, or commit any other improper act in China, shall be punished only by the Consul, or other public functionary thereto authorized, according to the

laws of the United States." Now it is reported, in the petitions of numbers of Chinese subjects, that their children, brothers, and other relatives, have been kidnapped by Chinese villains and sold on board American ships, in the holds of which they are confined. Furthermore, the officers whom I deputed, in co-operation with yourself, lately took from three American vessels fifty-one Chinese, who, on examination, all state that the several hundreds of Chinese who are on board the above-mentioned four American ships were all detained by force in the vessels' holds, with other matters of this kind. Now, the case of men causelessly detained by force on board American vessels, whereby friends and relatives are torn apart, and distress without end is inflicted upon them, is without a parallel in respect to the injury it entails. No other course is open to me, the Governor-General, than to make a note of the names of the captains of the American ships "Messenger," "Governor Morton," "Pioneer," and "Kitty Simpson," and report them to you, the Consul, to be dealt with for violence towards subjects of China. It is my duty to request that you will give your attention to this matter, and will thoroughly and diligently deal with the case; and will, besides, search out and bring back to Canton the entire number of Chinese confined on board the four vessels. Upon you, as Consul, rests, I believe, the responsibility of this affair; nor will it be difficult for you to manage the matter yourself.

When you visited me yesterday, you stated that it was your intention to proceed to Hong Kong, in order fully to report this matter to the Minister of your honourable nation; and I, also, must at once make the violence offered to Chinese by the said captains the subject of a communication, when I shall request the Minister of your honourable country fully to investigate and deal with the matter. I am confident that your Minister will, with undeviating justice, conform to the provisions of the Treaty in the conduct of affairs.

The port-clearances of the "Messenger" and the other vessels cannot, of course, be issued until a final settlement of this affair has been arrived at.

(Dated January 8, 1860.)

Inclosure 11 in No. 13.

Governor-General Laou to Mr. Ward.

(Translation.) *Canton, January 8, 1860.*

I HAVE the honour to communicate with your Excellency with reference to the request of the American Consul, that I would allow receiving-ships to anchor at Chang-chow (Whampoa) to take in emigrants; and my answer made then, that the scoundrels who kidnapped my people dared to do so only because these receiving-ships were anchored there and at other places to receive (their victims), and that it was clear, beyond a doubt, that it was these receiving-ships that enabled the kidnappers to carry on their trade. Moreover, that Whampoa was so far away (almost out at sea, in fact), the anchorages so ill-defined, and the wiles of the kidnappers so various, as to render it next to impossible for the authorities, Chinese or foreign, to exercise proper supervision (over the trade), and that kidnapping would continue as bad as ever if I granted his request. I then instructed him that he must establish a depôt at Canton, and be guided by the rules agreed to by the English and French in all business of this nature. This he allowed a month to pass without doing, allowing meanwhile American ships to anchor at Chang-chow and take in coolies till my yamun was positively besieged by fathers, uncles, and brothers, petitioning me that their sons, &c., had been carried off by native kidnappers, sold to and detained on board American vessels at Whampoa.

It was discovered by the officers I dispatched with the American Consul to examine the American vessels at Chang-chow, that there were numbers of men on board them; and he told me himself on the 13th instant (5th January), that there were 578 on board the "Messenger," promising at the same time to send them up to Canton.

On the 15th (7th January) he waited on me with another very different statement, that all the men on board the "Messenger" had been put on board some other ship, and sent away; also stating that he would proceed to Hong Kong and inform your Excellency of the matter.

I have heard since that, on the evening of the 13th, the steamer "Mei-li" took upwards of 200 of the men from the "Messenger" on board, and left with them.

I did not intend to have troubled your Excellency in the matter, but as Mr. Consul Perry intends to report it to you, I have had my six despatches to his address copied and inclosed; and knowing your Excellency's desire to act justly in all matters, I rest assured that you will direct Mr. Consul Perry to bring the four captains who have forcibly detained innocent Chinese on board their vessels to justice, to recover the 200 odd taken from the "Messenger" by the "Mei-li," and to send up all the men on board American vessels for examination.

This will be in accordance with the Treaty and the Emigration Regulations; and if your Excellency does so, my notifications will be respected by other nations, &c.

Inclosure 12 in No. 13.

Governor-General Laou to the Portuguese Consul at Canton.

(Translation.)

LAOU, Governor-General, &c.

A declaration to the Portuguese Consul.

It came lately to my knowledge that there were, at Whampoa, American, Spanish, and other ships, on board which kidnapped Chinese were received and bought. This is at variance with the regulations established in the 10th month of the present year.

I at once appointed officers to co-operate with the different Consuls, and to go to Whampoa, where they ascertained that on board the American, Spanish, and other vessels, there were undoubtedly kidnapped Chinese to the number of several hundreds.

Just as these men were to be brought to Canton for examination, it was reported that, on the night of the 5th of January, the American ship "Messenger" transferred to the steamer "Mei-li" all the Chinese, upwards of 200 in number, whom she had on board, and who were taken out of the port.

All these men who were transferred from the "Messenger," have been claimed by me the Governor-General as Chinese, who should be brought to Canton for examination; and, therefore, their detention by any other country would be contrary to international law.

They have now been removed from the port, and it is not certain that they will not be carried to Macao and confined in the barracoons.

Accordingly, I forward you this declaration, that, on its receipt, you may take the proper course of action, and at once report to the authorities at Macao by no means to permit the detention of the kidnapped Chinese, upwards of 200 in number, who have been taken on board the "Mei-li" steamer, and secreted at Macao.

They should at once be returned to Whampoa, to await my removal of them to Canton for examination, in order that the regulations may be complied with, as will be at once convenient and just.

(Dated January 8, 1860.)

Inclosure 13 in No. 13.

Memorandum.

THE understanding arrived at between his Excellency the Governor-General, the United States' Consul, and the Allied Commissioners, in reference to the 95 Chinese now brought to the yamun of the Governor-General by the United States' Consul, and being part of the 578 men to which the arrangements of Thursday the 5th instant related, is, that pending a reference to his Excellency Mr. Ward, and the arrival of his Excellency at Canton, or the receipt of instructions in the case from his Excellency, the said 95 men

shall remain in the custody of his Excellency the Governor-General, wholly free from interference on the part either of the United States' or the allied authorities; and in the event of no instructions being received from Mr. Ward, in consequence of his Excellency's departure for the North, which possibly may occur before the said reference can be made to him, then the question, both as respects the said 95 Chinese and the remaining 483 other men remaining unaccounted for, shall revert to its present position.

(Signed) OLIVER W. PERRY,
United States' Consul.

Canton, January 9, 1860.
(Signed) H. MARTINEAU DES CHENEZ,
HARRY S. PARKES,
Allied Commisioners.

Inclosure 14 in No. 13.

Govèrnor-General Laou to the Allied Commissioners.

(Translation.)

A COMMUNICATION by Laou, Governor-General of the Two Kwang, &c., to the Allied Commissioners.

On the 16th of the 12th month (January 8), I received from Mr. Carlowitz, Consul for Prussia, Saxony, and Oldenburg, a statement with regard to the kidnapped Chinese kept in confinement on board the barque "Fanny Kirchner," in reply to which I wrote, giving orders that the entire number of Chinese who are kept in confinement should be brought to Canton for the purpose of investigation and proper disposal, with other matters of the kind; and I now forward copies both of the Consul's statement and of my declaration in reply, for the perusal and information of the Commissioners, and in order to make known that in dealing with the kidnapped Chinese subjects who are confined on board the vessels of any nations my actions are regulated by one standard only.

Availing myself of this opportunity, &c.

Inclosed are the statement of M. Carlowitz and my own declaration in reply.

Hien-fung, 9th year, 12th month, 17th day (January 9, 1860).

Inclosure 15 in No. 13.

Statement by M. Carlowitz, Consul for Prussia, Saxony, and Oldenburg.

(Translation.)

THE Oldenburg barque "Fanny Kirchner," now here, was at first intended for the engagement of labourers for emigration. Deputed officers of your honourable nation lately proceeded to examine all the labourers on board this vessel, and amongst them were some not willing to go abroad, who were at once delivered to the officers for return (to Canton). Those who were willing to go abroad amounted in number only to thirty-one, and this number not being sufficient, the vessel in question could not conveniently proceed to sea with them.

The men who are willing to emigrate as labourers to the possessions of the Spaniards do not concern the said vessel in any way. She is now empty, and contains no berths or other accommodations for labourers.

It is reported to me that your Excellency has written to the Hoppo to stop the issue of the port-clearance, and I accordingly state the foregoing circumstances to your Excellency, requesting that you will again depute an officer to proceed on board the said vessel and make inquiry.

Inclosure 16 in No. 13.

Governor-General Laou to M. Carlowitz.

(Translation.)

DECLARATION of Laou, Governor-General, &c., in reply to M. Carlowitz, Consul for Prussia, Saxony, and Oldenburg.

I have received your statement requesting an inquiry on board the vessel in question, and have attentively perused it.

Some time since I, the Governor-General, established rules and regulations with reference to the engagement of labourers, authorizing the establishment, by any nation, of an office at Canton, for the conduct of affairs, in conformity with the rules adopted, trusting that a stop would be put to the crime of kidnapping. With these regulations the "Fanny Kirchner" has not complied, but has acted in a clandestine (or illegal) manner, in opposition to the established rules.

I lately gave orders to deputed officers to take from this vessel the entire number of Chinese on board, and to bring them back to Canton, but they brought back no more than forty-seven; there are still thirty-one in confinement on board, who have not been brought back, or the reprehensible proceeding (" ching pei") of transferring them to a ship borrowed of some other nation, on board which they have been clandestinely removed, has taken place.

I hasten, accordingly, to reply to your statement, and I trust that you will at once order the vessel in question to bring (or send) in full the thirty-one men who have not yet been delivered, to Canton, for examination, and to await an inquiry by the Hoppo and deputed officers, in order that it may be ascertained that no other illegality attaches to her, when a port-clearance can be given, and she can proceed to sea.

Inclosure 17 in No. 13.

M. Carlowitz to the Allied Commissioners.

Gentlemen, *Canton, January* 12, 1860.

I HAVE received, yesterday, from M. Bidau, the inclosed letter, which I have the honour to forward to you, with a translation. You will see that he promises and engages to send up the thirty-one men by the first opportunity; this will probably be by the "Spark," to-day, and I beg you will have the goodness to recommend to his Excellency the Governor-General to order some officers to come off to the "Spark" on her arrival, to take delivery of these men. The most expeditious way would be if some custom-house officer could be deputed to meet me on board the "Spark," and exchange with me the "Fanny Kirchner's" port-clearance against the thirty-one men.

That there are no more emigrants, and not even accommodations for them on board the "Fanny Kirchner," has already been ascertained by a commission of officers, last Sunday, and I will officially engage that she shall sail in ballast immediately after receiving her clearance, taking no coolies.

I make this proposition, to facilitate and expedite matters, solely on M. Bidau's promise, but once more disclaim any personal responsibility, or any liability of the ship for the production of these men.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. CARLOWITZ.

Inclosure 18 in No. 13.

M. Bidau to the Allied Commissioners.

(Translation.)

Gentlemen, *River of Canton, January* 10, 1860.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that, in conformity with the orders of his Excellency the Governor-General of Canton, I shall proceed to-morrow morning to Macao, whither I had dispatched the thirty-one coolies, to send them by the very first opportunity before his Excellency the Governor-General.

These thirty-one coolies are the same who remained on board the "Fanny Kirchner," and who were allowed me to keep, without any restriction whatever, to dispose of them by the Chinese officers who were delegated by his Excellency, as they themselves told me, to examine them, and to take along with them all those who did not wish and who refused to complete the contract which they had signed, so that they might be examined before his Excellency the Governor.

Always desirous to obey and to conform myself to the laws of the country wherein I live, I should be very sorry indeed if you would for a moment entertain the thought as if I had willingly and purposely transgressed in prosecuting my operations of recruiting labourers, which, as I am now informed, has been totally prohibited since the 23rd of November last. No such order has been communicated to me by anybody; and as I saw many other vessels continue the same operation, I could not suppose that, with such an order of his Excellency the Governor, all these ships would dare to receive emigrants, when their respective Consuls should have opposed themselves to the illegal continuation of their operations.

I beg that you will be persuaded that it has not been by intention, but by mistake and utter ignorance of such prohibition, that I have myself followed up these operations. I have done everything I could do in my power to avoid all abuses which have come to my knowledge; and I have, at my own proper expenses, returned to their families all the individuals who had confessed to me that they had been kidnapped.

It has never been my intention to favour the infamous practices of some of the brokers; on the contrary, and I can bring proofs, I have never—or, at least, with the greatest scruples—admitted any emigrants whose free desire to follow as colonists has appeared in the least doubtful.

I trust that this sincere declaration of mine will excuse me with you, Gentlemen, and will procure for me the consideration which every one is entitled to at your hands who is willing, according to the regulations now in force, to recruit colonists in Canton.

God protect, &c.

(Signed) R. BIDAU,
Agent for Messrs. Morales & Co.

Inclosure 19 in No. 13.

Mr. Leslie to Consul-General Laou.

Sir, *Portuguese Consulate, Canton, January 9, 1859.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your Excellency's despatch of yesterday's date, acquainting me that certain Chinese subjects had been unlawfully taken away in the steamer "Mei-li," from Whampoa. I have lost no time in writing to the Governor of Macao on this subject, and soliciting his interference should the coolies have been taken to Macao.

The number of days, however, which have elapsed since they left Whampoa, renders it somewhat doubtful if they can be easily traced.

I beg to assure your Excellency of my endeavours to assist in this matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOS. C. LESLIE,
Her Most Faithful Majesty's Consul.

Inclosure 20 in No. 13.

Governor-General Laou to Mr. Leslie.

(Translation.)

A DECLARATION by Laou, Governor-General, &c., &c., in reply to the Portuguese Consul.

On the 17th of this month (January 9), I received your statement to the effect that on receipt of my despatch declaring that the "Mei-li" steamer has shipped at Whampoa, Chinese, upwards of 200 in number, who have been kidnapped through no fault of their own, taken them from the port, and, it is to be feared, carried them to Macao, you, the Consul, at once wrote requesting the

authorities at Macao to make inquiry, and take the matter in hand. Upon this I felt profoundly rejoiced, perfectly seeing that you intended thoroughly and diligently to co-operate in dealing with the villains guilty of kidnapping.

With regard to your suggestion, however, that since the "Mei-li" steamer took on board the kidnapped Chinese and left the port, several days have elapsed and you fear there will be some difficulty in tracing them, I must state that it was on the night of January 5th, or in the morning of January 6th, that the kidnapped men were put on board the "Mei-li." Whampoa is at some distance from Canton, and it was not until the 7th that the case was reported to me in the city. Without any delay, I wrote to you on the 8th.

I hear, moreover, that hitherto on the arrival of every steamer at Macao, the forts always observe the rule of hoisting a flag, and making inquiry, after which the vessel is permitted to enter.

When the steamer in question with kidnapped Chinese on board entered the port, all the authorities of Macao must have been acquainted with the fact. And when, after her arrival, this large assemblage of kidnapped Chinese was put on shore at Macao, the fact must have had many witnesses. With these traces, what difficulty can exist? It is still incumbent on the said Consul, in accordance with my former declaration, to request the authorities at Macao with all speed to institute inquiry, and to order the said "Mei-li" steamer to bring back to Whampoa the entire number of kidnapped Chinese whom she had on board, and to await further proceedings. They should by no means be allowed to be kept secreted at Macao in opposition to the good feeling that should be shown to a friendly Power.

(Dated January 10, 1860.)

Inclosure 21 in No. 13.

Mr. Mayers to Mr. Parkes.

Sir, *Canton, December* 31, 1859.

HAVING received your orders to proceed with the two officers appointed by the Governor-General as their interpreter, I left the Allied Commissioners' yamun at 10 A.M. this morning, and accompanied them to the American and Spanish Consulates, in order to deliver the despatches with which they were charged.

Mr. Perry, the United States' Consul, was absent at Hong Kong, and Señor d'Orbeda, the Spanish Consul, was reported as on board the "Santa Lucia," at Whampoa.

The two officers hereupon determined to proceed to Whampoa, and we went on board the "Cum-fa" steamer. Although no notice had been given to hold this vessel in readiness, the captain, on my representations, got up steam, and we left the anchorage about 1 P.M.; having on board the men who were to identify the coolie-vessels, and to point out the kidnapped men, of whom I had a list of six.

We anchored at Whampoa shortly before 3, when I went with the officers in search of Mr. Blanchard, the United States' Vice-Consul, whom I at length met with ashore, and to whom I read in English the Governor-General's despatch, requesting him, in the absence of Mr. Perry, to proceed with the officers and myself on board the three American ships, in order to search for the kidnapped men.

Mr. Blanchard expressed his readiness to accompany the officers, but refused to authorize my own presence on board the ships, stating his fear that umbrage might be given by the presence of an Englishman, especially in the Consular service. I replied that I was there only as interpreter to the Chinese officers, but I could not induce Mr. Blanchard to alter his determination.

Finding that he would not go on board the American ships if it were made a *sine quâ non* that I must be of the party, I informed Major Tao and the other officer, Fang, of this; when it was arranged that the former should proceed with Mr. Blanchard and his Cantonese linguist on board the Americans, and that I, with Fang, should visit the Oldenburg, Spanish, and Peruvian ships.

We accordingly separated, and I boarded, with Fang, the "Fanny Kirchner" (Oldenburg). The captain informed me that the coolie-charter had

been cancelled, and that he had no authority over the coolies on board, who were merely lodged in his vessel until another be found; and he begged me to see the charterer, M. R. Bidau, to whose chop he accompanied me. On stating to M. Bidau the errand on which the officers had come, he expressed the greatest readiness to deliver any men on board his vessel who had been kidnapped, expressing at the same time considerable doubt that any men were there against their will. On reference to the list of coolies, the names of the two men stated to be on board the "black vessel" were, however, discovered; and we went to the "Fanny Kirchner." The names of Têng-a-fa and Chu-a-hwei were called, and these men, on being brought on deck, were delivered by M. Bidau to their delighted relatives.

I suggested that the remaining coolies, whose faces, peering through the stanchions which confined them in the hold, could be seen from the deck, should be asked whether any among them had been kidnapped. When this question was put by the Cantonese interpreter who was with me, a large number appeared to reply affirmatively, when I asked the officer whether he intended to claim these men; but he appeared most fearful of doing so, stating that his orders, as he understood them, were to take only the men specified by name in the petitions received.

M. Bidau gave me repeated assurances of the equitable manner in which his business is conducted; of his cross-questioning every coolie brought him by the brokers, in order to ascertain whether he has been kidnapped, or has come willingly; and of his solicitude to release from the hands of the brokers all such as appear to have been the victims of kidnappers. He also pressingly requested that I would visit his chop this evening or any other night, in company with the Chinese officers, when he would deliver a number of coolie-brokers into their hands. I mentioned the matter to Major Tao, but did not feel justified in entering on this matter without further instructions.

On leaving the "Fanny Kirchner" I met Mr. Blanchard returning from the three American ships, with the four men to be delivered, and two others, recognized by a man who had accompanied us from Canton, in the hope of discovering these relations.

Sending all the men to Mr. Blanchard's chop, I next proceeded with Major Tao, accompanied by M. Bidau as a guide, in search of Señor d'Orbeda, whom I found, after boarding several vessels, among them the "Messenger," all of which he had visited during the afternoon, on board the Peruvian ship "Westward Ho." I read to him the Governor-General's despatch, when he assured me that immediately on reading Laou's circular regarding the coolie-traffic, he had issued orders prohibiting Spanish vessels from receiving coolies on board, and that not a coolie was on board either the "Santa Lucia" or the "Westward Ho." Of this fact I had assured myself on board the latter vessel, and on the Consul's offering to show me the hold of both ships, I took his word for the fact.

Both the Consul and M. Bidau expressed great anxiety to see an Emigration House established at Canton, as the only means of putting an end to the crime of kidnapping.

As all the coolies mentioned in the petitions had now been recovered, with the exception of Liu-chi-tsun, respecting whose whereabouts no evidence was offered by his mother, the petitioner, and who could not be found on board the vessels, it was resolved to return to Canton, and the "Cum-fa" accordingly left Whampoa shortly before 7 P.M.

On the passage up to the city I examined separately, in presence of the two officers, the released coolies, and took their depositions, which are inclosed.*

We arrived off the factory site about 9 o'clock this evening, and I brought the party into Canton by the South-west Gate, directing the coolies to be in attendance at the yamun on Monday, January 2nd, in order to answer any questions you may wish to put to them.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. S. FREDK. MAYERS.

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* These men were re-examined, and their depositions are included in the list of 106 men brought up from Whampoa.

Inclosure 22 in No. 13.

Memorandum of Conversations held at Whampoa, December 31, 1859, *with relation to the Coolie Traffic.*

DURING the hour or more which I passed with M. R. Bidau, charterer of the "Fanny Kirchner," I found him ready to communicate all intelligence relative to the proceedings, which he characterized as most inquitous, of the coolie brokers with whom he comes in contact. These men, who bring him coolies alleged to be voluntary emigrants, use, according to M. Bidau, violence of an extreme character on many of their victims. It appears that they supply the coolie-ships with men of two classes—some who are *bonâ fide* willing to emigrate, and others whom they have kidnapped, sometimes beaten and tortured, whom also M. Bidau is frequently instrumental in releasing. The men are always asked, in his presence, whether they are willing or unwilling to engage themselves; if the latter, says M. Bidau, he at once takes them from the hands of the brokers, and gives them the means of finding a passage to Canton. There is no security, however, that the men thus brought are not previously intimidated by the coolie-brokers into a reluctant consent, as appears to be generally the case, judging from the depositions of the eight men whom I brought up last night from Whampoa.

M. Bidau further informed me that men have frequently been brought to him "beaten half to death;" and he himself was witness, some days ago, to a scene of violence on board a coolie-boat, which he endeavoured to stop, armed at the time with sword-cane. One of the Chinese, he said, drew a knife, whereupon he passed "three inches of steel into his body."

Expressing the utmost detestation of the lawless deeds of the men to whom he is compelled to look for his supply of labourers, he showed the greatest readiness to assist in the capture of known kidnappers, and requested me, together with Major Tao, the Chinese officer, to attend on board his boat that evening, or at any other time, in order to witness the arrival of some men of this stamp. Nothing, he repeated, would give him greater pleasure than to witness the punishment of men whose actions he reprobates, but upon whom, in default of a regularly licensed emigration system, exporters of labourers are compelled to depend.

The servant of M. Bidau, a Chinese boy of Macao, named A-cheong (and personally known, he told me, to Mr. Tellus, the police interpreter) is always present at the examination of coolies by the Portuguese linguist in M. Bidau's employ, as a check upon the latter; but that this system fails is proved by the fact that, at least, two men (Chu-a-hwei and Teng-a-fa) were on board the "Fanny Kirchner" against their will. The boy accompanied me in M. Bidau's boat from the "Westward Ho," where I left hismaster, to the American Vice-Consul's chop. Without being questioned, he informed me that he is employed as M. Bidau had previously mentioned; and told me with apparent indignation, that he constantly sees men brought up for engagement who have been severely beaten, tied up by the thumbs to beams on board the Chinese boats, and otherwise maltreated until they avow themselves ready to consent to embark. Whenever such cases are discovered, he added, his master at once releases the men, and provides them with money for their return home.

I could not discover from this boy in what manner the coolies received 45 dollars each, which sum M. Bidau stated that the two men liberated from the "Fanny Kirchner" had received, and to which he laid no claim in giving them up. The men themselves, on being afterwards questioned by myself, acknowledged only the receipt of one dollar from the Chinese coolie-broker.

The boy A-cheong asseverated that no man was ever received if he made the slightest protest.

A significant proof of the lawless state of the anchorage is afforded by the fact that on sending him back to the "Westward Ho," to await M. Bidau, he expressed great fears lest he himself should be kidnapped. The distance may be half-a-mile. The hour was about 6·30 P.M.

Mr. Blanchard accompanied me, with the coolies and their friends, on board the "Cum-fa." He repeatedly expressed pleasure at having been instrumental in liberating the men recovered, and said that he is constantly called upon to perform the same office.

At the same time he added, I think in the following words: "You know the Chinese could stop all this if they chose. They are only making tools of the foreign authorities." I made no answer, having previously reminded the Vice-Consul that I was on the spot only as an interpreter lent to the Chinese; and I shortly after this repeated to him that I was not there in an official capacity.

I should add that, at M. Bidau's request, I left with the American Vice-Consul, to be delivered to him, a memorandum of the locality at which the Chinese guard-boat is stationed, together with a description of the vessel; and M. Bidau volunteered the assurance that in any future case of violence which comes under his notice he will deliver the offender to the native authorities.

I cannot remember the person who stated that one reason of the impunity enjoyed by the kidnappers is the fear which Chinese capable of informing entertain of their own authorities, who, in making a descent upon a kidnapper's boat, would treat all as guilty, until their innocence could be proved. I believe, however, that it was M. Bidau who made the remark.

The above statement comprehends all that I recollect of the conversations I held at Whampoa yesterday afternoon. Nothing of importance, I believe, has been omitted.

(Signed) WM. S. FREDK. MAYERS.

Canton, January 1, 1860.

Inclosure 23 in No. 13.

Mr. Mayers to Mr. Parkes.

(Extract.) *Canton, January* 6, 1860.

ON Monday the 2nd instant, on receipt of your order to accompany the deputed officers of the Governor-General, in the capacity of interpreter on their mission, I proceeded with them, at 5 P.M., in search of Mr. Perry, the United States' Consul, who was found on board the "Cum-fa" steamer. The officers presented to Mr. Perry the despatch addressed to him by the Governor-General, after perusing which he expressed his readiness to accompany them immediately; and at their request the "Cum-fa" moved down the river, about 6 P.M., towards Whampoa.

Mr. Perry showed me the despatch, in which he was requested to co-operate with the officers in proceeding on board the American coolie-vessels at Whampoa, and in taking from them the entire number of coolies who had not been previously inspected by Chinese officers, in order to send them to Canton for examination. At the same time, it was stated that the officers were ordered personally to proceed on board the Oldenburg barque "Fanny Kirchner," having no Consul, and to take charge, in like manner, of all the coolies found there. The orders were most distinct on this point.

The officers stated to me that they intended examining all the coolies on board the three American vessels, and leaving such as professed a desire to emigrate at liberty to do so. Having, at the time, the original despatch of the Governor-General in my hand, I pointed out to them the divergence of such a course from what were there stated as their instructions, and impressed upon them the idea conveyed to my own mind, namely, that the inquiry was to be conducted in Canton, and that their duty was merely to receive the men. They all, however, repeatedly asserted that they would not remove men who were willing to emigrate, and requested me to inform Mr. Perry to that effect. I complied with their wish.

The Consul requested the officers to decide whether the "Messenger," which was ready to sail, should be boarded that night or the following morning, and, as they left it to him, he decided for immediate action.

We reached Whampoa about 9 P.M., when the officers, with Li, their Cantonese interpreter, Mr. Perry, and myself, went to the "Messenger." On reaching the deck, Mr. Perry drew the captain aside, and for a space of ten minutes a violent altercation appeared to proceed, in the course of which I heard the captain exclaim that "he would not have a Chinaman on board," "would not be delayed a moment," &c.; and I also heard Mr. Perry declare that he

would leave the ship, and not permit her to go to sea. Whilst I was endeavouring to explain to the officers the meaning of the violent language which they heard, Captain Manton suddenly came up to the group, followed by Mr. Perry; and, pointing first to the Chinese, shouted, "Who are these men? Let no Chinamen come on board!" and then, suddenly turning to myself, exclaimed, "Who are you? What man is this? Did I tell you to come on board my ship?" I quietly requested Mr. Perry to inform Captain Manton that I was there as interpreter for the Chinese authorities, and the Consul, in fact, replied to Captain Manton that such was the case, and that I was the only means of communication between himself and the officers. Captain Manton interrupted him: "I don't want him on board my ship. I'll have no Englishmen on this deck, from the Grand Admiral down. Leave the ship, sir (to myself), or I'll put you over the side!" I replied that, although in the British service, as he stated, I stood there only as interpreter to the Chinese officers; and Mr. Perry, corroborating my statement, endeavoured to calm the excitement of Captain Manton, but the Captain continued to threaten me with uplifted hand, ordering me to leave the ship. Mr. Perry at length begged me to go, stating that he could not prevent violence, and that nothing could be done while I remained. On my departure he would communicate with the officers through the ship's linguist. I looked to the officers, but they were utterly bewildered; and Mr. Perry pressing me to leave the ship, I thought it my duty to comply. I therefore went over the side, and stationed myself on board the boat made fast to the companion-way. Two Portuguese and an American at once put off in a gig, and ordered two ha-kow-tings (crimp-boats), at anchor close by, to get under weigh. Ten minutes after the three men left, two others came on board, who I believe were the captains of the other American ships.

After an hour's delay, the officers returned, and informed me that they had arranged with Mr. Perry to go on board next morning, examine all the coolies on board the three ships, and take back to Canton all such coolies as testified an unwillingness to go abroad. I at once pointed out that this fact was to be ascertained in Canton, not on board the ships, but they persisted in stating that they could act no otherwise; that, in their opinion, it was just to leave all such coolies as really wished to emigrate; and that they were especially ordered to avoid all collision ("nao-shih") with any person soever. As they asked my opinion, I gave it freely, saying that they were not there to form opinions ("ta-chu-yi"), but to execute distinct orders. My words, however, were without effect, and this I stated in my note to yourself, written at 11 P.M. from the "Cum-fa."

Mr. Perry insisted that I could not go on board the American ships, and on explaining the case to the officers they appeared quite content with any decision made by Mr. Perry, nor could I obtain from them any other opinion than one to the effect that, when threatened with violence, it is always best to go away.

Thus excluded from the American ships I determined to devote myself entirely to the Oldenburg vessel, and the officers resolved to separate into two parties, Ling and Hwang going with Li-hsien-sheng on board the Americans; and Major Tao, who joined at Whampoa; with Chu, the Nanhai magistrate, taking myself as interpreter, in the affair of the Oldenburg barque. I carefully impressed upon Li-hsien-shêng my ideas respecting the necessity of obeying the Governor-General's orders, but in case of default thereof by the officers, of strictly examining every individual case; and having done my utmost to assist the officers at whose disposal I was placed, I felt that the matter lay now in their own hands.

Shortly after sunrise on the 3rd, I proceeded to the chop of M. Bidau, the charterer, for Morales and Co., of the "Fanny Kirchner," and learned that he was expected that morning from Canton. I also visited the "Fanny Kirchner," explained to the captain the nature of my visit, and informed him that the officers would proceed on board that morning. He stated that the Oldenburg Consul resident at Canton had expressly forbidden the admission of Chinese authorities on board without his approval, and that he could not disobey; though, at the same time, he was most anxious that every coolie should be removed, since his vessel was merely used as a receiving-ship by M. Bidau, whose former charter of the vessel had been cancelled on the 19th December, with the proviso that the coolies should be kept on board "say six or seven

days," till a new ship could be found. The captain said, "I have no knowledge of, or control over, the employés of M. Bidau; all I know of the coolies is, that two days ago I was informed there were eighty-six on board. The Portuguese come and go between the ship and Bidau's chop, at their own pleasure. Bidau alone has authority over the coolies on board." He at the same time asked me whether the officers could not insist on coming on board, when he would not hinder them, and thus relieve him of responsibility. Leaving the barque, I awaited the arrival of the Canton steamers, and at 8·45 A.M. took M. Bidau from the "Willamette," to the "Cum-fa," informing him that I had matters of importance to communicate, as interpreter to the officers of the Governor-General. On reaching the party I explained to the officers the state of the case regarding the "Fanny Kirchner," pointing out their peremptory orders to board the vessel. They replied, that without permission of the captain they would not attempt to board a vessel; that their orders were to avoid any rupture of the amity prevailing with all nations, and that they could not use force. On the other hand, I explained to M. Bidau the position of the officers, when he stated that the Oldenburg Consul, then at Macao, would be at Whampoa on the following day, which information, on being communicated to the officers, decided them to await his arrival before boarding the vessel. M. Bidau stated that there were but ten coolies on board, and he invited the officers to his chop, there to examine these men in detail; and although I pointed out the inadvisability of going to the chop, the two officers, Tao and Chu, decided to do so. In the meanwhile Mr. Perry came on board (about 11 A.M.), with a written paper, containing two queries, which he proposed to put to each coolie in succession, in presence of the officers, by their own and the ship's interpreter. These I translated to the assembled officers, informing them of Mr. Perry's proposal, to which they assented without a query, and which I repeated to them three times—twice by the mouth of Li-hsien-shêng; I at the same time again reminded them of their orders. In accordance with my duty I again represented to Mr. Perry the desirability of my going on board the American ships, but he would not authorize me to do so, and I therefore was compelled to drop the matter. I therefore left Ling, the Kwang-hsieh, with Hwang, the Pwan-yü Magistrate, and Li-hsien-shêng, to accompany Mr. Perry; and as the other two officers appeared resolved to go on board M. Bidau's chop, it occurred to me that it would be as well that they should occupy themselves and him in a manner that would prevent the removal of the coolies from the "Fanny Kirchner" to Macao; M. Bidau having told me that after the visit of the two officers on the 31st December, and their removal of two kidnapped coolies, he had sent all the remainder, on January 1st, to Macao—a statement which was afterwards proved to be incorrect.

At 11·30 A.M. I accompanied the officers to the chop. A coolie was brought to them, and they put the question they had fixed upon, viz.: whether he was willing or unwilling to go abroad. He at once replied that he had been kidnapped; was unwilling to go abroad; and that there were 100 coolies on board the "Fanny Kirchner." I asked the officers whether they wished to put this coolie aside; but they were resolved on taking his deposition in full, even to the age of his father and mother, and two hours were wasted in talking to this man, with continual interruptions from the Portuguese linguists in M. Bidau's pay, and from M. Bidau himself, who told the officers that he would not surrender the men without compensation for the money advanced to them, or to the coolie-brokers for them, for their clothing, and their maintenance on board his ship. He stated that he had paid 45 dollars for each coolie. I pointed out to the officers that they were wasting their time in useless debate, and that if they departed from their instructions they could not expect to manage matters properly; but they fully agreed to M. Bidau's demand for compensation, and handed me a written statement, in which they calculated the ten coolies, said to be on board, at 45 dollars each, and proposed to take from their own pockets 450 dollars to satisfy M. Bidau, and facilitate their dealings. I replied that there was every reason to believe there were 100 coolies on board; that they were there to demand, not to bargain for the men, and that if they established such a precedent there would be claims for compensation for every coolie taken from other vessels. Hereupon they dropped the matter; but finding that they continued to interrogate the coolies to no purpose, I inquired what, in fact, they thought of doing. They replied that they would claim all

those who were unwilling to go abroad. Why, then, I asked, do you not claim at once the first man? "Because," they replied, "M. Bidau says he formerly contracted to go, and, therefore, he will not now give him up." I inquired: Do you not intend to take those men whom he refuses to surrender? No, they replied, we can only argue with him ("shang-liang"). Finding that nothing could be done by these men, I left them with the coolies, and proceeded to make arrangements for a boat to take me to Canton at dusk. On returning, I found that twelve men had been examined, of whom two stated their unwillingness to emigrate; and, as M. Bidau would not give these up, they allowed them to remain, and expressed their desire for further reflection.

I had satisfied myself, and informed them, that 100 coolies were then on board the "Fanny Kirchner," where I had again seen the captain, who showed me the cancelling of the charter, and gave me such information as convinced me that if the coolies were removed at all, it would be to the American vessel "Kitty Simpson." He persisted in saying that without his Consul's permission he would not consent to a visit from the officers.

At 4 P.M., therefore, I consulted with Chu, who was most eager that I should go to Canton and consult with yourself; and, accordingly, I returned with the two officers to the "Cum-fa." Leaving them there, I went in search of Mr. Perry, whom I met on the river, and who told me that the examination was at an end on board the "Messenger," from which he had taken 27 men out of 250, having surrendered every one who stated his unwillingness to emigrate; that the officers gave it entirely into the hands of the ship's linguist, and were much more occupied with the champagne given them by the captain than with the business going on; and that the two other vessels would be examined that afternoon and night. He was then awaiting the convenience of Ling and Hwang, who had gone to their boats for refreshment. I visited them there, and was assured by them of their satisfaction with what was occurring on board the American ships.

At 4·30 P.M. I left Whampoa in a small boat, and reached Canton at 6·20 P.M. At 7 I saw yourself, and was directed to return to Whampoa next morning, to continue my functions as interpreter.

At 4 A.M. on Wednesday morning I, therefore, left for Whampoa, where, however, I did not arrive until 9 o'clock. Only one of the officers had risen, and I learned from him that all the American vessels had been thoroughly examined, and that some fifty coolies had been surrendered as unwilling to go abroad. The whole party now expressed their desire to devote themselves to the case of the Oldenburg barque, but were resolved to await the arrival of the Consul. Meanwhile Major Tao sent me to notify the captain and charterer that any attempt to remove the coolies would be repressed by his guard-boats, which he placed alongside the "Fanny Kirchner." I notified M. Bidau in writing of this point; and further informed him that the officers, out of regard for the amity prevailing with all nations, waived for the moment their right to go on board the vessel, and would await the arrival of the Oldenburg Consul.

At 3 P.M., M. Carlowitz arrived from Macao, and I took him from the steamer in company with M. Bidau, who also went to meet him, and went at once to the mandarin boats. The officers, in consideration of what had been told them on the preceding day regarding the coolies on board, objected to M. Bidau's demand to be present at the interview, and M. Carlowitz saw them alone. After assuring the officers that he had been recognized as Oldenburg Consul by the late Governor-General Hwang, they presented him with a written paper, which I read to him in English. It requested an examination in their presence of all the coolies, and the delivery of such as stated their unwillingness to go abroad.

We proceeded on board the "Fanny Kirchner." M. Bidau, demanded, through the Consul, that his own interpreter only be permitted to interrogate the coolies; but the officers, on my referring the matter to them, insisted that their interpreter, Li, should be employed, and, having objected to M. Bidau's pressing request that they should go into the cabin, they seated themselves on deck. Captain Canfield, whom I believe to be the commander of the "Kitty Simpson," was on board, and seated himself close to M. Carlowitz. The coolies were brought up one by one. Those who stated their unwillingness to go abroad, were placed together on the deck; and those who signified a contrary desire, were returned to the hold, where they were kept apart from the

remainder. After the examination of forty or fifty, the officers expressed a desire to know whether any intimidation was allowed on the part of the Portuguese below, before passing up the coolies, and M. Bidau offered to take Li-hsien-sheng and myself down in order to see how matters were carried on. The space occupied by the coolies I found most confined and ill-ventilated, with scarcely a ray of light in some parts. The height between decks could scarcely be 7 feet, and the width of the passage between the berths of the coolies and the bulkhead which runs longitudinally, is, to the best of my recollection, of no greater width than will allow two men to stand with comfort side by side. The atmosphere was stifling; in a few moments I was covered with perspiration, and I turned quite sick, although at the time fully half the coolies had been taken away from this part of the vessel. After walking along both ranges of berths, the Cantonese interpreter spoke to one man, whom he asked how he came there, and whether any one had threatened him, whereupon M. Bidau requested that he be taken on deck and there examined. This was done, and we went away without speaking to any other individual. On deck the man gave no evidence of having been threatened, and from what I saw of the manner in which the coolies were passed up, I do not believe that menaces were used at the time.

The examination went on, and about 50 coolies in succession declared their unwillingness to go abroad. The last 10 were brought up together, and all declared their unwillingness to emigrate, making a total of 59, with, I believe, 40 who wished to go abroad.

It was now between 7 and 8 P.M., and the Consul refused to give up the coolies except upon condition of compensation to M. Bidau, for every man not returned to him; with the stipulation, moreover, that he himself, M. Bidau, and the latter's witnesses, should be present at the investigation in Canton, in order to prove that every one of these men had previously freely declared his desire to emigrate. I suggested that the officers could not make any arrangement of this kind, and they resolved on reporting to the Governor-General.

M. Carlowitz at first refused to guarantee the detention of the coolies on board the "Fanny Kirchner," but at length offered the terms expressed in the Memorandum signed by himself, and accompanying this Report. I translated it to the officers, who inquired how M. Carlowitz could guarantee the detention of men removed out of his jurisdiction; whereupon M. Bidau objected, that I had prompted this reply, and demanded that his own interpreter, a Manilla-man or Portuguese, should translate from his own verbal Portuguese version of M. Carlowitz's Memorandum, its tenour into Cantonese, which Tao understands. M. Bidau translated the first clause into Portuguese, but the interpreter gave no accurate idea of the proposition in his Cantonese rendering, and I objected to the whole proceeding, stating that, as interpreter to the officers, it was my duty to see them fully aware of every proposition emanating from foreigners, and that, setting aside the fact that his interpreter did not give an accurate rendering of the document, it was useless to give one of the officers a mere verbal rendering of the paper in a dialect that the three others did not understand. As the officers asked my advice about the proposal, I told them that I thought they were quite incompetent to make any arrangement of the kind, and that they had best refer the matter to Canton at once.

The attention of the officers could not be fettered to the subject in hand. Shortly after their coming on board, a table was spread with sweatmeats, champagne (supplied, I think, by the captain of the "Kitty Simpson"), &c., and this, with their pipes, kept the four officers engaged, notwithstanding my repeated requests that they would attend to what was passing. The coolies, meanwhile, were huddled on the quarter-deck.

While I was explaining to Chu the propositions of M. Carlowitz, the Manilla-man spoke, at some distance from me, with Tao, who, it appears, assented to everything that was said; and all the officers fully assented to the justice of compensating the charterer for his outlay, and were ready to promise this, as well as the return of all such coolies as should be proved, on examination in Canton, to have sold themselves in gambling transactions to the coolie-brokers.

After two hours' debate, and endless propositions and counter-proposals, all in essence identical with the spirit of M. Carlowitz's Memorandum, it was decided that further orders from Laou must be awaited; M. Carlowitz agreeing to keep the coolies on board the "Fanny Kirchner" until the following night, on

condition that he was notified by noon on the following day of the Governor-General's decision, and stating that he would claim demurrage for the vessel.

When this proposal was submitted to the officers, Hwang was missing, and I found him afterwards smoking opium on board his boat; but the remainder acceded to the proposal, and hurried away, without saying a word to myself or to the Consul, to their boats.

I followed the officers on board their boats, where I found them at supper, having made no preparation for a report to the Governor-General. I suggested that a boat be dispatched at once, when M. Bidau came on board in haste, saying that the coolies left on deck had refused to go below, fearing that they were to be abandoned by the officers, and requested that one of them would persuade them to go peaceably to their berths. Chu decided to go on board, and after much persuasion on his part, and piteous entreaty to be removed on the part of the coolies, he succeeded in persuading them to go below.

The magistrate then went away in his boat, and I was preparing to follow, when a rush of the coolies took place—inspired by what idea I am unable to say—and from the main-deck I heard several loud splashes, and shouts from the poop. It appeared that some of the coolies had rushed on deck; some had thrown themselves overboard, and gained sampans in the neighbourhood, while one, named Tooi-kung-kwok, it was stated to me, was seen to sink.

I hastened after the Nanhai magistrate to beg him to return, when the Consul, hearing what had happened, and also a report communicated by M. Bidau, that the coolies had threatened to revolt, and "massacre all the Christians on board," said he would give up every man demanded by the officers.

I at once begged him to come with me to their boats, and make the surrender to them personally, but on our arrival at their boats he still coupled the condition to the agreement, that he, with M. Bidau and the latter's witnesses, should be present at the examination of the coolies in Canton. He also demanded a certificate for the coolies who had been examined and found willing to emigrate.

After some time spent in deliberation, the officers agreed, and a form was drawn up (of which a copy is inclosed).

As it was now nearly midnight, I felt that the officers, all of whom had prepared for sleep, would not look properly after the delivery of the coolies, and therefore hinted my readiness to obey their orders in this respect. They at once deputed me to make every arrangement I thought proper; whereupon I requested Major Tao to order his large war-boat to anchor near the "Fanny Kirchner," and with two of his men I went on board the barque, with the list previously drawn out of the coolies to be surrendered. Bidau, with his Portuguese, went into the hold, where I at first was not admitted, but one of Tao's men was there, and saw all that passed.

While I stood at the gangway, the men were passed up, in most cases quite naked. They were stripped by Bidau of the clothing issued to them on their arrival on board, and searched for money, which some of them had concealed in their mouths, and others in the knots of hair at the backs of their heads. On reaching the deck they were ordered to select from a filthy heap of rags—the clothing taken from the coolies on their arrival on board—a jacket and trowsers, or one of those garments.

I shipped them off in parties of eight and ten, after checking their names, to the war-boat.

After some time I was called to the hold to witness the refusal of one of the coolies to be sent away, declaring himself willing to go abroad. In consequence of his change of mind, he entered the ranks of the voluntary emigrants, who clustered around the few square feet of space where M. Bidau and his Portuguese were stripping one by one the surrendered coolies.

Of the number who had declared themselves unwilling to emigrate in the afternoon, five changed their minds, and seven were missing, of whom three are known to have gone overboard, leaving four unaccounted for, but whose names were called, and who were sought for in the hold.

By 2·25 A.M. I had received and sent off the last of the forty-seven coolies, and, with M. Carlowitz, I went to the mandarin-boats, where I roused the officers from their beds, and after vouching for the delivery of the forty-seven men, I handed to M. Carlowitz the receipt, signed by Major Tao, for those men,

together with the certificate, stating that thirty-five men, whose names were written in full, had been found willing to emigrate. The receipt for the forty-seven men embodied the agreement that, on their examination in Canton, M. Carlowitz, with M. Bidau and his witnesses, should be present.

My duty with respect to the Chinese officers was now completed. They informed me that they should leave for Canton soon after daybreak, and I, therefore, bade them farewell, and left Whampoa in a sampan at 4 A.M., for Canton, where I arrived at 8 o'clock in the morning of January 5th.

In concluding my report of my proceedings as interpreter, and of the matters which came under my cognizance, I cannot refrain from remarking upon the conduct of the four officers at whose disposal I was placed. Although furnished with clear instructions, they manifested from first to last an utter disregard of their manifest duty of obedience, and showed anxiety only for the avoidance of all personal trouble, and for the shifting of any responsibility that might be incurred, upon myself. My advice was constantly asked, and as constantly given in the same terms, viz., to act in accordance with Laou's instructions; and, if this were impossible, to refer to him for further orders. In place of such conduct, hours were wasted in fruitless debate on subjects which I could not but believe beyond their competence to decide; and when the time for action arrived, it was usually found that half the party were either away from the spot, or attending to their personal comfort rather than their duty had heard nothing, and must have the explanations or arguments renewed.

In consequence of the readiness constantly manifested by these officers to make any agreement, however preposterous and unlikely to be fulfilled, I was constantly obliged, in conformity with what I believed my duty as their interpreter, to point out the dangers of their course, and in consequence it was complained, by M. Carlowitz and M. Bidau, that I was the counsellor of these gentlemen, and not their mouth-piece merely. I replied that to translate without explanation, which was tantamount to counsel, and to which they appealed as proof that I did in fact act as adviser, would be of very little use to the men whom I was there to serve; but that if my advice were indeed acted upon, matters would be conducted in a manner widely different from that in which they had proceeded.

I must not fail to add, that if any one of the four officers signalized himself by the display of activity, intelligence, and a readiness to work, it was the Nanhai Magistrate Chu, to whom, indeed, the remainder willingly deputed as much as possible of the labour of the occasion.

Inclosure 24 in No. 13.

Memorandum.

THE men who, before the deputed mandarins, said they would not go to the Havana on their own accord have to be kept at the disposal of the said mandarins or the Governor-General, either on board the "Fanny Kirchner" or on board another ship under the guarantee of the Oldenburg Consul.

They are to be examined before the Governor-General in the presence of the Oldenburg Consul and M. Bidau, who is allowed to bring his own witnesses, to prove that these men, after a close investigation, declared themselves willing to go to Havana, and signed the contract without any compunction (*sic*) of his.

The money and clothes which M. Bidau can prove to have given to them shall be given up, in the state given, or a fair indemnity be consented to on the part of the mandarins, or if not the coolies should be allowed to stick to the contract which they made with M. Bidau.

(Signed) R. CARLOWITZ,
Consul for Oldenburg.

Inclosure 25 in No. 13.

The Allied Commanders-in-chief to the Consuls at Canton.

Gentlemen, *Canton, January* 12, 1860.

WE have the honour to forward for your information and consideration copies of a communication and its inclosures from his Excellency Laou, the Governor-General of these provinces, to the Allied Commissioners, dated the 6th instant, requesting the Allied Commanders-in-chief to advise him as to the measures best calculated to effect the suppression of the Whampoa coolie trade, carried on, as this has lately been, under circumstances most injurious to the character and interests of the foreign community.

We also take the opportunity of placing before you the depositions of 105 men who have lately been brought away from certain coolie receiving-vessels at Whampoa, namely, the American ships "Messenger," "Pioneer," and "Governor Morton," and the Oldenburg barque "Fanny Kirchner." You will read with pain the particulars therein given of the system of torture that has been pursued in order to wring from the victims of the trade a nominal consent to an eight years' engagement in the Island of Cuba; and you will see that deception has been practised in order to induce them to believe that their shipment has received the sanction of their own authorities. Notice may also be taken of the assertion so frequently repeated in the depositions, that those coolies who have not yet been removed from the above-named ships remain on board against their will, and that their endeavours to make that unwillingness known are suppressed by the persons who have them in charge.

We doubt not that you will concur with us in thinking that it can be no sufficient defence of the system to say that this violence and deception is in most cases the act of the Chinese, and not of the foreigners engaged in the trade. The latter must long ere this have become acquainted both with the true character of the instruments they employ, and the abuses to which the payment of head-money must lead; and there is, moreover, evidence to show that the ill-treatment of which the coolies complain is not unfrequently inflicted on board the foreign vessels, and by foreign hands.

In case it should be thought that these depositions are not deserving of full reliance, we should inform you that each witness was examined separately, and out of the hearing of his companions; and it is not easy to see what object the majority of the witnesses could have in fabricating falsehoods after they had once regained their liberty. But, in case some of your body should wish to test for themselves the accuracy of these statements, or to obtain further information from the witnesses themselves, we have sanctioned their temporary detention in Canton, in order that they may be brought before you if you desire it.

To the first-named letter from his Excellency Laou to the Commissioners we are now able to add another one, dated January the 9th, communicating the course adopted in the case of the "Fanny Kirchner," which his Excellency is desirous to show is uniform with that pursued towards the American receiving-ships. We here refrain from any description of the fatal occurrences of the night of the 4th instant on board the last-named vessel, or of the recent transactions connected with the coolie cargo of the "Messenger;" but if, when engaged in the consideration of the subject, you should desire additional information, either as to the proceedings we have alluded to, or the general question of man-stealing, as it is now extensively carried on in these districts for the supply of the coolie trade, we may refer you to the Allied Commissioners, who have ample details in their possession.

Fully sensible, Gentlemen, that the suggestion of those preventive measures which his Excellency Laou is so anxious to see instituted, appertains rather to your province than that of the Allied Commanders, we would wish to place the matter in your hands, and to beg you to concert among yourselves the measures best calculated to correct the abuses that have been brought to light. We may mention, however, that this is the second appeal which his Excellency has made to us on this subject; the first being simultaneous with the issue of his recent Circular to the Consular Representatives, announcing to them the establishment of a system of free emigration, and requesting them to require their respective countrymen to conform to the rules upon which that system is based. It appears, however, that his Excellency's requisition has been only partially complied with;

for, while several parties connected with the shipment of coolies at Whampoa desisted from their operations on being warned by the Consular authorities of their illegal character, others, again, with little appreciation of his Excellency's liberal concession, and in direct opposition to his prohibitions, continued to collect coolies through the agency of the crimp-boats, and to receive them on board the above-mentioned ships,

The prevention of such proceedings in future, and the faithful observance of the rules established by the Governor-General, is the point which should now engage the attention of all responsible persons in this community, connected so immediately as the subject is with the peace and order of this important port, and the preservation of a good feeling between foreigners and the Chinese population. We confess that we do not ourselves see why it should be more difficult to control foreign vessels when engaged in the shipment of contract labourers, than when following any other ordinary operation. But whatever may be the steps necessary to secure the ends in view, you will, we are satisfied, see with us that the unscrupulous acts of a few individuals, such as those we are now pointing out, are liable to imperil the best interests, and even the personal safety, of your communities; and that although the presence of the allied force in this city may serve for a time to shield foreigners generally from the consequences of these acts, they may be followed by a serious recoil when that safeguard shall be withdrawn, unless due security against the wrongs complained of shall in the meantime have been provided.

We have, &c.

(Signed) C. T. VAN STRAUBENZEE.
HENRY HOPE.
D'ABOVILLE.

Inclosure 26 in No. 13.

Depositions of Kidnapped Coolies brought from Whampoa.

No. 1. UNG-CHEONG-PO, a Tartar (taken from an American ship), states:—About twelve days ago I was selling herbs in the streets of Canton, it was in the South suburbs. A man (Chinese) came up and asked me to go to Honam, to fetch something to Canton; got into a boat, and was taken to Chang-chow. I objected to go to that place, and was struck. I was placed on board a foreign ship, and asked if I would go to a foreign country; I declined. The foreigner said I was to be taken back as I had refused to go. I was again put into the kidnapping boat, and beaten on my back with the flat of a sword; I received four blows, and was told I must, when on board the foreign ship, say I was willing to go, or I should be killed. I said I would rather die than go. I was kept below on the foreign ship; my dress was changed, and I was not allowed on deck. There were 189 coolies down in this place; we had plenty of room, and plenty to eat; all were unwilling to go, and had been kidnapped. Six days ago I was brought away from the foreign ship.

No. 2. Shun-a-yeung, a Tartar (taken from American ship), states:—About twenty days ago I was selling milk in the Western suburb; two men accosted me, and said they could sell me some better goods than mine, and at a very cheap rate; this milk was on board a junk in the river. I went on board with them, and was ironed, and taken to a foreign vessel at Chang-chow, on board which ship I was asked if I was willing to emigrate. I refused, and was taken back to the Chinese boat; was cruelly beaten with a thick board, receiving 100 blows on all parts of my body, and told if I did not say I was willing the next time the foreigner asked, that I should be killed, and my body thrown into the water. I consented then, being afraid, and was taken to the foreign vessel again. Some time after this a foreign gentleman came on board, and asked me some questions. I explained who I was, and that I would not be a coolie. After this I was sent down below, and a foreigner, of what country I am not aware, struck me with his fist for having refused. I saw it was no use resisting any longer. My clothes were changed, and I was kept below. My father, accompanied by a foreign gentleman, came for me. I am thirty-four years of age, and have a wife and two children.

No. 3. Cha-yin, a Chinese (taken from American ship), states:—I am 35 years of age and unmarried; am a workman employed on the White Cloud Mountain. About fifteen days ago I was seized by ten Chinese armed with swords and pikes. I cried out, but no one came to me; it was night. I was dragged away to Tung-poo, near Whampoa. I was taken on board a boat and conveyed to Chang-chow, and asked there if I was willing to go on board a foreign vessel. I refused, and was beaten; taken and tied up with a rope, then beaten with the flat part of a sword. I was taken on board a foreign ship; asked by foreigners if I was willing to emigrate; said no; was again put on board the Chinese boat and beaten afresh, the same as before, and threatened that if I did not consent to emigrate when asked again, I should be killed. I consented under fear. I do not know of any coolies having been killed in that way, but it was said among the coolies that some had been beaten to death. I received one dollar to purchase something to eat; was middling well treated on board the foreign ship; fed twice a day; did not see any one beaten on board that ship.

No. 4. Chay-a-ung (taken from American ship):—I am 25 years of age, unmarried; am brother to the last man examined. (Repeats the same thing exactly.)

No. 5. Lsing-a-chin, a Chinese (taken from American ship), states:—I am 23 years old; am a coolie. More than one month back I was in the south suburb and met two Chinese who offered me work as a coolie at Honam. I told them I was afraid to go, as so many kidnappers were about. They told me not to be afraid, as they would protect me. I got into a boat, and against my wish was taken to Chang-chow. Arrived there, I was asked if I would be an emigrant and go on board a foreign ship. I refused, and was beaten by the first, and also misused. I was taken on board the foreign ship, and on my again refusing to emigrate when asked by the foreigners, I was reconducted to the Chinese boat, beaten, and pricked, and given my choice of consenting or being killed. I consented, and was taken on board.

No. 6. Chin-a-wy, a Chinese (taken from Oldenburg ship), states:—I am 23 years of age; am a coolie; was seized twenty-eight days ago. I lived in Sam-pi-len; a party of robbers, thirteen in number, came to my friend's house and seized me. I was tied and gagged; the robbers had pikes, swords, and shields. I know two of the robbers, one is called Wong-man-luang, the other, Fan-tin-kwei; the first lives in Sin-chum, the other in Loong-gan-tung. I was taken to Tung-poo, then to Chang-chow to a boat, where I was asked if I would emigrate; I was beaten because I refused, beaten with a rope, and told that if I refused when asked on board the foreign vessel, that I should be brought back and killed. I was asked on board the foreign vessel, and refused to go; was brought on board the Chinese boat, and again beaten with a rope; then I said I was willing to go. I received one dollar from a foreigner.

No. 7. Chou-a-chou, a Chinese (taken from American ship):—I am 30 years of age, and live at Wang-ke-king; am unmarried. A month since a party of robbers came to my house, stole all my property, and took me away to Tung-poo; thence to Chang-chow, and then told me I was sold as a coolie, asking if I was willing to go. I refused, and was tied up and beaten with the flat of a sword. I was then sent to the foreign ship, where I was asked by a foreigner if I would like to go abroad; I said no, and was taken back and beaten again the same as before. I was again taken to the foreign ship, and again refused when asked to emigrate; taken back and beaten again. I was then informed if I was still unwilling that I was to be killed; I therefore consented. On board the foreign ship I was asked by the foreigners if I was willing to go, and replying in the negative was beaten by the foreigners with a rattan. I received about four blows, and was placed in the hold; after this I was released by those who came for me. I saw coolies beaten on board the foreign ship; it was because they refused to work when called on to do so.

No. 8. Tung-a-fat (taken from Oldenburg ship):—I am 24 years of age, and a coolie; I was seized by robbers at Sam-pi-han about twenty-eight days

ago. I was taken to Tung-poo, and thence to Chang-chow. I was asked if I would go and be a coolie with foreigners; I refused to go, and was beaten with a stick, receiving about fifteen blows. I consented to go, and was told that if I refused when asked on board that I should be killed, and thrown into the water. I received a dollar on board the foreign ship. I did not see any one beaten on board the foreign vessel.

No. 9. Wong-a-sheck, a Chinese (taken from American ship):—I am 22 years of age; I am a buyer and seller. On the 29th of the last month (nineteen days ago), I was taken from my place at Chung-fa; an old acquaintance, by name Kok-chow-foo, came and explained to me that he had work for me in a nice shop at Chang-chow; at this latter place I was taken on board a boat, and asked if I would be a coolie, and go away with the foreigners; I refused, and was beaten, kicked, tied up, and shamefully ill-used. I saw it was no use refusing, so I said I would go; went to foreign vessel; was paid a dollar, and kindly treated. I was taken away from the vessel three days ago; there were more than 200 coolies on board that vessel.

No. 10. Pun-ping-kong, a Chinese (taken from American ship), states:—I am a stone-cutter, and 21 years of age. I belong to a village called Yan-tong-tang (a little beyond Yun-tung). Twelve days ago I, with six others, was seized by robbers, in number between twenty and thirty, armed with swords, pikes, &c. These robbers came at night. We were taken to Tung-poo, then divided into three parties. I went to Chang-chow, on board a boat the captain of which I was told was a Portuguese; it was a vessel with three masts. Before this I had been told that if I dared to refuse to go with the foreigners, I should be beaten, and then killed; so I thought it was no use, and assented. I was treated kindly on board the foreign vessel. I signed a contract, which stipulated I was to go to a place belonging to Spaniards; that I was to be fed and clothed, and receive 4 dollars a-month free. I signed because I was afraid to refuse. I was brought away three days ago.

No. 11. Liang-a-coon, a Chinese (taken from American ship), states:—I am a gardener, and 28 years of age. I live at Sam-noi; it is two days by water. About fourteen days ago I was accosted by a friend, who told me my brother, who I knew was at Macao, was thriving in business, keeping a cook-shop, and had desired I would go to him. I said I would go, but had not money to pay my passage. My friend said he would lend me sufficient, and that when we both arrived at Macao I was to ask my brother to refund the sum. I was taken to Chang-chow; was told I was required to go with foreigners. I refused, but when it was explained that I should be beaten and perhaps killed if I persisted in refusing. I consented to go. I was treated well on board the foreign vessels, and I was told that if any mandarin came to ask if I was there according to my wish, I was to answer in the affirmative, or else be beaten.

No. 12. Kok-a-foo, a Chinese (taken from American ship), states:—I am 20 years of age; am a barber, and live at Sun-chune. About fifteen days ago an acquaintance of mine came, and asked me if I would go with him, and see my brother, who lived in South suburb. I consented: we got into a boat, and were taken to Chang-chow. I was asked if I would go and serve the foreigners, and refused. I was then beaten, and threatened to be killed if I still refused; so I gave in, seeing it was no use holding out. I was taken to a foreign vessel, and only brought back three days ago.

No. 13. Li-a-mory (taken from American ship):—I am a butcher, and live at Hong-Kong. I am 24 years of age. My parents live at Wong-sha, not far from here; it is a pan-yu village. I left Hong-Kong about forty-one days ago to go and see my parents. I was well to do, had plenty of good clothes, and two dollars in my pocket. I embarked in a Chinese passage, arrived safely at Chang-chow, and getting into a small boat to go to my native village, was met by a gang of kidnappers, who seized me and my clothes. They took me back to Chang-chow, and told me I was going to be sold to the foreigners. I refused, and was beaten very severely with a rattan. I could not bear such cruel treatment, and consented to go with the foreigners. Arriving on board their ship I

was kindly treated. I did not receive any money. I signed a paper, which I was unwilling to do. They beat me before I would do so. I was struck by a Chinese, and also kicked by him. I did receive a peculiar kind of torture on board the Chinese boat to make me consent. I was tied up by the thumbs, with my feet just touching the deck, at the same time beaten with the rattan. The tying-up by the thumbs is a very painful thing: they never did that on board the foreign vessel.

No. 14. How-a-kow (taken from American ship):—I am 19 years of age, and live in the Western suburb of Canton. About ten days ago I was going into the Eastern suburbs, and was then met by three men, who demanded I should pay them some money they falsely stated I owed them. I cried out when they carried me off, and the three men kept calling out, "He owes me money, and we are trying to get it from him." I was carried to Tung-poo, and thence to Chang-chow. Arrived at this place I was beaten by the flat of a sword, and also kicked, so that I consented to go. On board the ship I was asked by a foreigner if I would emigrate. I refused, and was handed over us the kidnappers again. They took me into the Chinese junk, tied a rope round my waist, let me down into the river and then dragged me up a little way, asked if I changed my mind. I could not stand the cold water, so I consented to go. After that I was kindly treated.

No. 15. Tung-a-sam (taken from American ship):—I am a silk-weaver, and live in Sam-hing. I met a person about ten days ago, who offered me employment at 6 dollars a-month. I went with him, and was taken to Chang-chow, where I was offered employment with the foreigners, but I was to go abroad. I refused, saying I would rather die. I was thereupon beaten with the flat of a sword, and threatened with death. I was shown the water, and told I should be dipped in it. I consented, and went on board the foreign vessel, where I was placed in the hold. I signed a contract.

No. 16. Chun-a-mun (taken from American ship):—I am a native of Fatshan, and 20 years of age. Twenty days ago I met an acquaintance, who enticed me to go with him. He got me on the water, and then decoyed me down to Chang-chow, where I was informed I was to be sold as a coolie. I refused, and was beaten. I went on board a foreign ship, again refused, and was sent back to the junk. When I was again beaten then I consented to go. I signed a contract, being afraid to refuse. I received one dollar. I was not beaten on board the foreign vessel.

No. 17. Ho-a-yün (taken from American ship):—I live with my parents at Hoi-ping; I am 22 years of age. I came to this city to seek employment; on my way I was seized and conveyed to Chang-chow, where I was asked if I would go abroad with foreigners; I refused, and was beaten with the flat of a sword. I was taken to a foreign ship, and on my still refusing to emigrate was taken back to the Chinese junk, where I was again beaten, and this time worse than before; so I consented, and was then taken back to the foreign ship, where I was treated kindly. I did not receive any money. I signed a contract.

No. 18. Yung-yit-keu (taken from American ship):—I live on the river. Thirty-seven days ago four men came to my boat, and wanted me to convey some wood. I was sent to Chang-chow; my uncle was with me. I was taken from my own boat and put on board a junk, and asked if I was willing to go with the foreigners. I refused, and was tied up by my thumbs and toes, my body just touching the deck, but not enough to ease the torture of the cord; the punishment was more than I could endure, so I cried out that I was willing. I was conveyed to the foreign vessel, and asked if I was willing; I said I was not, and was sent back to the junk, where I was again suspended as before, but this time a little higher up, and buckets of water were poured over my head. I again said I was willing to go, because I could not stand the torture. I went with them to the foreign ship again, and then said I was willing, so they paid me a dollar, and put me down below. I did not see any other person punished.

No. 19. Cheong-a-loo (taken from American ship):—I am 24 years of

age; a ribbon-maker and native of Fatshan. Ten days ago I was persuaded by some person to go with him to Canton; I consented, because I heard I could there get good wages. Instead of going to Canton we went off to Chang-chow, and I was informed I was to be sold as a coolie. I flatly refused; a rope was tied round my waist, and I was lowered into the water; this was horribly cold; I thought I was dead; I cried out, and said I would go as an emigrant; I was taken to the foreign ship, and was paid two dollars. I saw punishment on board the foreign ship; it was done by striking with the fist, not by foreigners but by Chinese, and always done below, where the foreigners did not see it; those I saw struck are here.

No. 20. Leong-a-heong (taken from American ship):—I am 26 years of age, and belong to Sun-ling, and am a carpenter. A friend persuaded me to go to Chang-chow, where he said I should make a fortune, so I packed up my tools and went with him. Arrived there my friend informed me I was to be sold as a coolie; I refused, and was tied up by my thumbs, beaten with the flat of a sword and with a piece of wood four inches in diameter. I could not stand the torture, and went on board the foreign ship. I was then asked if I was willing, and replied I was not; so the foreigner sent me back to the kidnapper, who gave me a similar and much more severe punishment than before; so I gave up. When the mandarin came on board and asked if I was willing to go, I told him I was not, and for saying so I was taken down below and kicked. I did not see any one else beaten or punished.

No. 21. Chin-a-fat (taken from American ship):—I am 19 years of age. I was begging in Wy-chin, and persuaded by a man to go to Canton. Started for that city, but was taken to Chang-chow. I was informed I was to be sold, and on my refusing I was tied up by my thumbs, was beaten, my cheek slapped, and, forcibly, I gave in. I was then taken on board the foreign ship, and well treated. I did not see any other person punished.

No. 22. Wong-a-fat (taken from American ship):—I am 23 years of age. I am a servant in a brothel. A friend, fourteen days ago, at Fatshan, asked me to go with him to Canton, where I could get a better offiee. It was too dark when we were on our way to see, and we went to Chang-chow. I was asked to go and be a coolie. On refusing I was tied up by my thumbs, sticks were placed between each of my fingers, a piece of wood also was placed in my mouth. I said I was willing to go; they told the people in the foreign ship the same. When the mandarin came on board I was asked by him if I was willing to go, and said I was not. For this the foreigner took me down below, and beat me severely. I was also kept without any dinner on that day. In the China boat I was beaten by Chinese, dressed as such. I saw another man beaten; he is here among the coolies.

No. 23. Wang-a-yew (taken from American ship). Twenty years in Heang-shan: sold sugar-cane in the streets. On the 25th December, in the afternoon, met nine men in the streets, who bought sugar-cane of him, and told him to come with them on board a boat for the money, about 120 cash. The boat was a hakow. Directly he was on board they seized him, robbed him of the little money he had, tied his hands behind his back, and a cloth over his mouth, and put him in the hold. The boat then sailed to Chang-chow; arrived there on the 29th; and he was put on board a lying-up ship without mast, with mat cover; there was asked, by a tall man who spoke Cantonese, whether he was willing to go abroad. He refused. After the foreigner left, he was returned to the hakow, and ducked, and, being taken back to the ship, told the foreigner he was ready to go; some white clothes and a bamboo ticket were given him; these were taken from him afterwards. He has no wish to go abroad, as he has a grandmother and mother dependent on him at Heang-shan; his father died eight years ago. He put his finger to a paper soon after being put on board the second time, and his name and age were written on the paper.

No. 24. Leang-choo-yih, 20 (taken from American ship). Was employed on board boats at Ching-tsun in Shun-tih-hseen. On 2nd January, one Sin-a-tai hired him to go on board his boat, and took him on board a hakow, on which

were fourteen or fifteen other men; he was put down in the hold; there were no others there. On arriving at Chang-chow the same evening he was taken on board a foreign ship, which had three masts, and there asked by a Chinese, in the presence of a foreigner, whether he wished to go abroad or not; but having been told that if he said "no" he would be killed when he was taken back to the hakow, he assented.

No. 25. Le-ah-su, 29 (taken from American ship), Puanyu district. Hired a boat on the 19th of the 11th moon to go to Fatshan, but was induced to take a pipe of drugged tobacco, which sent him to sleep, during which he was taken to Chang-chow, and put on board a hsia-kou-ting alongside a foreign vessel; was then ordered to go on board, and, refusing, was punched with the hilt of a sword, and continuing firm in his refusal, had his hands tied behind, and was ducked between the hsia-kou-ting and the foreign vessel till he consented to go; when he attempted to cry out, he was gagged. On getting on board the foreign vessel he again declared his unwillingness to go, and was told to go on shore again, and was again beaten and ducked by the boatmen: at last, went on board quietly, having no help for it; was lodged in the hold, and fed sufficiently well, but was beaten three times, for declaring his unwillingness to go, by Chinese employed in the vessel. These declarations were made to the Chinese, he being afraid to address the foreigners; and no foreigner was present when he was beaten.

No. 26. Lin-ah-shan, 26, a costermonger in the Puanyu district (taken from American ship). Was induced by his friend Wang-ah-hai to enlist as a brave on board a mandarin vessel; went on board a small boat with six others, who immediately shoved off.—Wang-ah-hai leaving directly they got into the boat. When he cried out, he was beaten with the back of a sword, and nearly strangled. On arrival at Chang, was taken on board a foreign vessel, but sent back into his boat on declaring his unwillingness to go. The six men then took him to a retired spot, beat him, ducked him, and starved him, till he consented, when he was taken on board another foreign vessel, and sold; was generally treated well on board the foreign vessel by the foreigners, but was twice flogged by a Chinese employed on board for declaring his unwillingness to go; the flogging taking place in a house on deck, heard others flogged, but was never present when this was done. Foreigners saw him taken on deck, but were not present when he was flogged. Was afraid to cry out, lest he should be beaten more severely. No foreigners interfered when victims cried out.

No. 27. Shên-ah-sum, 28, a Sin-ngan shopman (taken from American ship). Went voluntarily as far as Chang-chow, a friend, Yeh-ah-tim, promising him a good berth. On arrival there was taken on board a hsia-kou-ting, and told his destiny; refusing to go willingly, he was beaten with a paddle till he consented, when he was dressed respectably and taken on board a foreign vessel; suffered much from cold on board, but was not beaten, and was sufficiently, although coarsely, fed: others were beaten by two Portuguese who spoke Chinese, but never in presence of any other foreigner. Men were beaten who stated their unwillingness to go quietly, equally with those who represented it noisily. Those who were beaten in his presence still remain on board the vessel.

No. 28. Su-ah-hu, 24, a Shunteh man (taken from American ship). Gained his living by selling vegetables in Canton. Went to Whampoa to see a relation there, but was boarded, gagged, and carried on board a hsia-kou-ting. Immediately on arrival was rope's-ended, and carried on board a foreign vessel; stating his unwillingness to go, was sent back into his boat, and was taken back to the hsia-kou-ting, beaten and ducked till he consented to go, when he was taken on board another foreign vessel; was treated well on board, save that he was kept down below; others were beaten by two men dressed as foreigners, but speaking, and in all other respects resembling, Chinese, for making a noise, or saying they were there by compulsion; the floggings took place down below.

No. 29. Su-a-pat, aged 44, a Namhoi man (taken from American ship). Employed as a coolie. Went voluntarily to Chang-chow in search of employment; at the representation of an acquaintance, Ah-hung, was there taken on board a hsia-kou-ting, and told his destination; refusing to go, he was tied up and

threatened; when he consented, was refused by three ships on account of his age, but representing himself as only 30 on board the fourth, was accepted; was treated well on board, but others were beaten for making a noise, or saying they were there by compulsion; the floggings took place down below, the chief agent being one Ah-ha, a man dressed like a foreigner, but, in all other respects, looking like a Chinese.

No. 30. Ao-ah-kao, 19, a Namhoi man (taken from American ship). Sells pork. Was decoyed into a boat to look at some pigs, and forcibly carried to Chang-chow, and put on board a hsia-kou-ting; was beaten till he consented to go on board a foreign vessel, but was sent back into a boat on telling the captain he was there by compulsion. Was taken back on board the hsia-kou-ting, and beaten, ducked, and threatened, till he consented to go quietly, when he was taken on board another foreign vessel; was treated well on board, but others were flogged for declaring they were there unwillingly. The floggings were administered by three or four men dressed as foreigners, but speaking and looking like Chinese; the men who were beaten still remain on board ship.

No. 31. Chen-ah-kai, 22, a carpenter at Fatshan (taken from American ship). Went on board the foreign vessel voluntarily to execute some repairs but was kept on board against his will, when these were completed, by a Chinese on board; was released, however, on representing his case to a foreigner, and carried on board a hsia-kou-ting, where he was thrashed till he agreed to go, when he was taken on board a different vessel; was treated well there, but was beaten several times for standing up, all the coolies being compelled to crouch down unless when walking about; the agents in these floggings were A-pa and two others, men dressed as foreigners, but in all other respects resembling Chinese. Never stated his being there by compulsion to any one on board, others who did so being beaten, and deprived of their meals for doing so. Those who were beaten still remain on board the ship.

No. 32. Ho-ah-sung, 29, a costermonger in the Puanyu district (taken from American ship). Was told to come off to a junk for his money by a man who bought several catties of his wares, but was gagged with a piece of firewood, and bound directly he got into the small boat and carried off to Chang-chow, where he was beaten till he agreed to go on board a foreign vessel. Getting there, he told his story to the captain, who sent him on shore in a small boat, but, by ill luck, he found his original tormenters in it, and was carried back to the hsia-kou-ting, and flogged till he agreed to go quietly; was treated well there, but was beaten once for trying to go on deck; they were allowed to walk about down below, but not to stand still for any length of time. The agents in the floggings were foreigners in dress, but resembling Chinese in every other particular. Was afraid to say he was there by compulsion while on board, as those who did so were flogged most severely; all these remain on board the vessel.

No. 33. Ho-ah-hi, aged 22, a Puanyu man (taken from American ship). Owns a soil-boat. Was carried off from his boat by two Halung scrambling-dragon boats, and carried off to a hsia-kou-ting at Chang-chow, where he was beaten until he consented to go on board a foreign vessel; was dismissed on stating that he was there by compulsion, and was carried back to the hsia-kou-ting, where he was again beaten till a second consent was wrung out of him, and he was taken on board a second vessel; again stating that he was there by compulsion, he was again dismissed, and taken back to the hsia-kou-ting, where he was beaten and thrown into the river in a basket, till at last he gave up in despair, and was taken on board the third foreign vessel. Was treated well on board, the only restriction being that he could not leave the hold or move about after 8 P.M.; but he did not mention his being there by compulsion, as those who did so, after once entering the hold and being paid for, were beaten by Ah-pa and other foreigners in dress, but Chinese, to all appearance, in everything else. All the men who were flogged remain on board the vessel. There was a Chinese (represented to be a Chinese officer, though wearing no insignia of his office) on board every ship he was taken to.

No. 34. Wang-ah-chên, aged 20, a farm-labourer in the Nanhai district

(taken from American ship). Was got into a boat on pretence of taking boxes off to a ship; detained there forcibly, and carried off to Chun-chow, where he was put on board a hsia-kou-ting, and threatened till he consented to go on board a foreign vessel, where he was asked if he was willing to go to Ta-Lusung, and, being afraid to say no, was put down below. Is unable to say what happened on board, as he was laid up with sea-sickness, but was not personally ill-used.

No. 35. Teng-ah-huang, aged 24, a comb-maker in the San-shui district (taken from Oldenburg ship). Was decoyed to Chang-chow in search of employment, taken on board a hsia-kou-ting, and there told his destination. Refusing to go, was tied up and beaten with a stick, and threatened with a drawn sword, till he consented to go on board a foreign vessel, where he was asked by a foreigner who spoke Chinese whether he was willing to go or not; saying no, he was told to go back to the hsia-kou-ting, where he was beaten till he agreed to go quietly, when he was taken to a yellow hulk, and thence to a lighter-rigged vessel than he was first put on board; while there, he was asked constantly whether he was there voluntarily or not, but beaten and kicked whenever he said no.

No. 36. Huang-ah-hang, aged 34, a charcoal-seller (taken from Oldenburg ship). Was taken to Chang-chow to get the money for a load of charcoal, and put on board a hsia-kou-ting, and told his destination; refusing to go, was tied by the thumbs and toes, ducked in the river, and beaten till he agreed to go on board a foreign vessel. Telling the foreigners he was there by compulsion, was sent back, put on board the hsia-kou-ting, and beaten till he again consented. Was taken on board a second foreign vessel, and again said he was there by compulsion; was taken back to the hsia-kou-ting, and beaten again till he was afraid to say no, when asked whether he was willing to go or not, on board the third foreign vessel. Was treated well on board; always answering yes when he was asked whether he was there willingly or not.

No. 37. Huo-ah-chai, 22, a charcoal-seller (taken from Oldenburg ship). Decoyed to Chang-chow by the offer of a berth at Canton, was put on board a hsia-kou-ting there, and told his destination; was tied up by the thumbs and beaten, and threatened with drowning, till he consented to go on board a foreign vessel; there he was examined by a Chinese, said to be an official, who asked him if he would go or not, telling him he would be beaten if he refused. Was afraid to say anything, and sent down below; there he was asked on several occasions whether he was willing to remain or not by black-haired foreigners, who spoke Chinese, and saying no, was beaten with a tarred rope; others were beaten for the same offence, but these remain behind; being kept from seeing the Chinese official to whom he gained access by telling the foreigners he was willing to remain in the ship. Does not know what nation the foreign ship belonged to.

No. 38. Wang-ah-ling, 32, a costermonger (taken from Oldenburg ship). Was decoyed to Chang-chow by Kuan-tsai-rh, of Sien-hua-tsing Street, close by the yamun, seized, carried on board a ha-kou-ting, and ducked till he agreed to go on board the foreign vessel, where he was asked by a Chinaman dressed as a foreigner, named Kua-ah-szu, whether he was willing to go or not; said yes, the broker having told he would be murdered if he refused; forty dollars was given for him, which was paid to Kua-ah-szu by a foreigner, when he consented to go, and Kua-ah-szu left with the broker. Was told by a foreigner the morning he was rescued that a mandarin was coming to examine him, and promised two dollars if he said he was willing to remain, and threatened with death if he said the contrary.

No. 39. Lin-ah-sing, 23, farm-labourer in the Puanyu district (taken from Oldenburg ship). Going off to a hsia-kou-ting, was seized, pitched into, beaten, and ducked, till he consented to go on board a foreign vessel, where he was asked if he was willing to go to Ta-Lusung for eight years, at four dollars the month; consenting from fear of the broker, was put down below. Here he was constantly asked was he willing to go or not, and beaten if he said no. The morning the mandarin came on board, was asked whether he was willing to go

or not, and told that he should be murdered if he said no; said yes, and thus gained access to the mandarin; was promised a feast and two dollars if he behaved properly.

No. 40. Chung-ah-ching, 35, a farm-labourer in the Puanyu district (taken from Oldenburg ship). Was decoyed on board a ha-kou-ting at Chang-chow, beaten and threatened till he consented to go on board a foreign vessel, where he was asked whether he was willing to go or not; said he was, and was put down below; was afterwards beaten for saying he was there unwillingly, when asked by foreigners there. The morning the wei-zuen came on board, they all declared their unwillingness to remain, and were left on deck while the wei-zuen went to his boat to take his meal. As soon as the wei-zuen left the deck, the foreigners tried to force them down below, but the wei-zuen coming back on their crying out, the foreigners desisted.

No. 41. Lou-ah-chuan, 21, a nightman, from the Polo district (taken from American ship). Went voluntarily as far as Chang-chow, being hired to fetch something thence, and was got on board a hsia-kou-ting, and told his destination. Saying he would not go, he was beaten and threatened till he consented to go on board a foreign ship, he does not know of what nation; he was then questioned, and saying he was there by compulsion was sent back, but being threatened consented to return; on going back the second time, a Chinese officer in plain clothes questioned him, but he was afraid to say anything, and went down below. He is certain it was the same vessel he was first taken to, as a Chinaman, Ah-pat, dressed as a foreigner, was there on either occasion. Was treated fairly on board, but was struck once for getting up at night; they were allowed to walk about below, but not to stand about, or to talk together. The agent in all the floggings was Ah-pat, who was assisted by two or three other Chinese, or Macao Portuguese. Never said he was there by compulsion while on board, as those who did so when asked were beaten very severely; they were constantly asked by Ah-pat whether they were willing to go or not, to try them. Two men, one pointed out, were beaten after the mandarins boarded the vessel in a house on deck.

No. 42. Li-ah-lai, 21, a farm labourer (taken from an American ship). Went to Chang-chow voluntarily, being hired as a farm labourer, and was carried on board a ha-kou-ting there while under the influence of drugged tobacco. Was beaten there with a short sword-hilt, till he consented to go on board a foreign vessel. He does not know of what nation; but he observed a tricoloured flag, red, white, and green, or blue: he forgets which. He was there questioned by a Chinese, represented to be a mandarin, who asked him whether he was willing to go to Ta-Lusung, at four dollars a-month. Being afraid to say no, he said yes; although he had no idea where Ta-Lusung was, and he was then sent below. Was treated well there; but they were not allowed to talk together, and those who complained were beaten by a foreigner, who spoke and looked like a Chinese. This man constantly asked them whether they were there willingly or not, doing so in a friendly tone, but beating those who said no.

No. 43. Un-yün-pei, 23, a Sanshui pedlar (taken from American ship). Was carried off in broad daylight, and taken on board a hsia-kou-ting, where he was kept till sent on board a foreign vessel late at night. Was there asked by a black-haired foreigner, who spoke Chinese, Ah-pat, whether he was willing to go to Ta-Lusung for four dollars a-month. Not knowing where Ta-Lusung might be, he said no, whereon the foreigner slapped his face. On this he said yes, and was sent below, and was again questioned by a Chinese, one of those employed on board the ship, and down in the hold he was treated pretty well, as he kept quiet; but those who said they were there by compulsion were beaten, though they said it in answer to his question. He heard that the vessel he was on board was an American one, but does not know. The men who were known to be unwilling to remain were put down below out of the way, when the Chinese mandarin came on board.

No. 44. Hao-sun-yen, 19, a farm labourer (taken from American ship). Went on board a ha-kou-ting with firewood, and was detained there, and beaten till

consented to go on board a foreign vessel, where he was asked by a Chinese, represented to be a mandarin, whether he was willing to go or not. Saying no he was taken on board the ha-kou-ting, and beaten with a knotted rope till he said he would go quietly. He was then taken on board another foreign vessel (he does not know of what nation), and examined by another Chinese, represented to be an official, and, saying yes when asked whether he was willing to remain or not, was sent down below while the others were beaten for saying they were unwilling to remain there when asked, all of whom remained on board. Was struck after his examination before the real mandarin, as they were putting him into the small house on deck, where they stopped till they left the ship.

No. 45. Su-mao-chiao, 30, a rope maker (taken from American ship). Was decoyed into the Hochi Barracoon at Macao and kept there till sent up with sixty others by steamer, and put on board a foreign vessel. Was asked there whether he was willing to go to Ta-Lusung for four dollars a month, said yes, having been warned by the Chinese coolie-broker on board the steamer that if he said no he would be beaten to death. Saying this he was sent down below; while there he was asked on three several occasions whether he was willing to remain or not by a foreigner or Chinese in foreign clothes, and saying no was struck several times with a cane; others were beaten for the same reason, but they remain on board the ship. Was shoved into the small house on deck rather roughly after his examination by the Chinese mandarin who rescued him, but not beaten.

No. 46. Chong-yeung, (taken from American ship):—I am a barber, and 26 years of age; live outside the East Gate. I am unmarried. I was taken fifteen days ago by a friend who persuaded me to go to Tung-poo (near Whampoa), that I should be well employed in my trade. I went with this friend from Tsin-poo; as we could not sleep in the barber's shop where I was to be employed, we engaged a boat and went to Chang-chow. I was very reluctant to go; but was told I was to be a coolie: a sword was placed at my throat when I refused to be a coolie and my life was threatened; it was a Chinese called Ah-took who used the sword. This was at Tung-poo: it was a very small boat; I was taken to Chang-chow in the same small boat, and to the foreign ship. I was to be a coolie at four dollars per month for eight years and at a Spanish Colony. I was asked by a foreigner if I was willing to go, and I replied in the affirmative, because my friend had assured me that if I refused I should be given back to the kidnappers, who would kill me. I only saw one man ill-treated on board that foreign ship: he refused to sign the contract and was kicked and knocked down by a foreigner, I think he was the master of the ship: that same Chinese is still on board that same ship. Only seven of us were taken from her. I only saw two mandarins come to the ship, and that was on the occasion of our release: these two were Pwan-yu and Nan-hai magistrates. The reason there were only seven of us taken from that ship, is that when the Chinese authorities were seen approaching the vessel, a Chinese linguist whose surname is Ung, and whom I believe to be a mandarin employed in the coolie business, ran down below and called out in a loud voice, "The magistrates are coming, and if any man dares to say to them that he is here against his will, he shall be beaten and killed." We were examined in tens, and none save us seven dare say we were kidnapped. I received a dollar on board the foreign vessel.

[*Note.*—This Chinese Ung is stated to be employed by Mr. Perry the American Consul.]

No. 47. Chow-a-shun (taken from American ship):—I am a coolie and 20 years of age, and was taken from Hong Kong to Macao. I was rejected (appears to have the itch). I was forced to make an agreement at Macao, because I had been persuaded to come over from Hong Kong, and the man who brought me demanded the passage-money and all expenses back. This I could not pay, so I was forced to submit: then I was sent up to Whampoa. I agreed to go to a Spanish place for eight years, and I received a dollar. I was ill-treated on board the foreign ship.

No. 48. Lwang-a-cheung, (taken from American ship):—I am 25 years of age, and am a gardener, and belong to the city of Nan-hai. I was walking in

the streets about 9 o'clock at night, now more than a month ago: three men seized me and took me to a boat. I was taken to a place I did not know; on the way I was asked to be a coolie to foreigners, and on my refusing to be one I was told I should be killed by starvation. I was kept a day and a-half without food. I do not know the name of the place. This time I was in a large sampan: then I was taken on board foreign ships; no questions were put to me; I received clothes, food, and a dollar. I signed an agreement because I was afraid to do the contrary. I was beaten and knocked about on board the foreign vessel, told if the mandarin came, and I did not say I was willing to go, that I should be kicked and beaten. They went through the process to show me what kind of usage I might expect. I did not see others punished, because we were taken up separately and threatened in the manner I have described. When the mandarin came 27 coolies were taken away, and upwards of 200 were left on board.

No. 49. Tong-chin-tong (taken from American ship):—I am 28 years of age, and a shopman. About thirty-four days ago at Hong Kong my business failed. I made the best of my way to Canton to ask my friends for assistance. I then started to walk to Tung-poo; met two men at night on the road-side, and they warned me to beware of kidnappers, as Tung-poo was full of them. They persuaded me to go to a house which was only a little way off. I went with them at last. About 10 o'clock they proposed we should have a walk; I did not like it, but I went. We arrived at the river-side, and a small boat was waiting, into which I was made to enter, being told I was to be sold as a coolie. I was taken to Chang-chow and placed on board a hakow boat. I was told how I should be used if I refused to go abroad. I went to the foreign vessel and was asked by foreigners if I would go to a Spanish Colony. I refused, and was sent back to the hakow boat. I was beaten both by the fist and by a stick, and not being able to bear this cruelty, I assented to go to the Colonies, and went on board the foreign ship for that purpose. I saw three men punished. From the foreign vessel I was sent to Macao, and kept there about twenty days. Whilst there the three men I allude to were punished: one was for trying to escape. The punishment was by striking with the fist, and by a foreigner. From Macao I was brought back by the steam-boat, and placed in the foreign vessel at Chang-chow.

No. 50. Tche-a-low (taken from American ship):—I am 20 years of age, and married. I am a sailor. I was kidnapped at Woo-ching by a man who persuaded me to go to a vessel to get good employment. Arrived at Chang-chow, I was told I was to be a coolie with foreigners. I refused and was tied up. This was on board the ha-kou-ting. My hands were tied together. I was told it would be well to spare myself the pain of punishment, as even death would be my fate if I persisted in refusing: I assented, and was taken on board a foreign vessel. In reply to the question of the foreigner, I informed him I was very unwilling to go, but still more unwilling to endure punishment, and rather than that, under compulsion, I must go. I was received and was paid a dollar, and was engaged to a Spanish Colony for eight years. I was kindly treated on board. Some were punished for making a disturbance. We were visited by mandarins at different times, and always before their visits the foreigner told us we should be killed if we dared to say we were there against our wills. One China mandarin lived on board; he told us we had better confess we were willing, or we certainly should be killed.

No. 51. Wong-a-kow (taken from Oldenburg ship):—I am 42 years of age (looks more). I am married and have a family. I am a native of Wychow. I am a sailor. A man persuaded me to come to Canton for better employment. Arrived at that town, I was nearly starving. My friend asked me if I would go abroad and be a servant to foreigners. I said I would not; and then my friend told me he would not support me any longer. So then I consented to go. I was taken to Chang-chow and put on board a foreign ship, and asked to go to a foreign place where I was to get four dollars per month. I agreed, and received a dollar. The reason I did not refuse, when asked by the foreigners, was that the kidnappers told me I should be killed if I refused.

No. 52. Le-a-yok (taken from American ship):—I am 24 years of age and

married. I am a fisherman, and belong to Hong Kong. A man asked me to give him a passage in my boat to another vessel (Chinese) off Hong-kong. I went, and was made to get into the Chinese vessel. I was then told I was to be a servant to foreigners and go abroad. I told them I would not, and was seized and my hands tied over my head. I was lowered into the water, my head several times dipped under, until at length I consented. I was sent to Macao in a China passage-boat. I was then taken to a large house, where I was beaten by a foreigner because I refused to eat. I was beaten with a stick. I was passed into another establishment, where I was treated kindly. I was then put on board a steamer and taken to Whampoa. I did not cry out on board the steamer and say I was kidnapped, because I was pretty sure those foreigners were all alike and engaged in the same business. Arriving at Chang-chow, I was placed in a foreign vessel, put down in the hold. We were only allowed on deck one at a time, when necessity compelled us. I received a dollar.

No. 53. Hang-a-cut (taken from Oldenburg ship) :—I am 33 years of age, and married, and live at San-shuieh. I was persuaded twenty-eight days ago, by a friend, to go to Canton to get better work. In my way to Canton the boat struck off to Chang-chow. I was taken on board a ha-kou-ting, and told my employment would be to go with foreigners, and I should receive four dollars a-month; I refused, and was threatened with punishment. I was then taken to a foreign ship, and asked by a foreigner if I was willing to serve abroad. I said no. He asked me why I came there then. I told him I had been kidnapped. I was sent back to the China vessel, and beaten and kicked; I was struck with a stick. I could not bear this usage, so I yielded, and was again taken back to the foreign ships; this time I agreed. I did not receive any money from the foreigner, but the Chinese who sold me gave me a dollar.

No. 54. Chung-a-fat (taken from American ship) :—I am 19 years of age, a labourer. I live at Chang-cheang. Twenty-four days ago fourteen men came and seized me, and sent me to a boat at Chang-chow. On board this ha-kou-ting I was punished because I refused to be an emigrant. I was beaten, and seized, and tied with a rope round my middle, and lowered into the water. I was sent on board a foreign ship. A foreigner asked me if I would go to Spain for eight years; I should receive four dollars a-month. I said I would rather die. The foreigner handed me over to the kidnappers again on board the ha-kou-ting. Once more my hands were tied together, fingers and all; a wedge was then driven in between my two hands, it was driven with a hammer; the pain was so great I was obliged to yield. I was taken back to the foreign ship, and received two dollars from a Chinese on board.

No. 55. You-a-ching (taken from American ship) :—I am 29 years of age, married, and am a gardener. I live at Ho-hune. I was seized by two men about twenty days ago, and tied up. I was taken to Chang-chow; and asked if I would consent to go abroad with foreigners, and I refused. My hands and great toes were tied together, my tail was tied up with them, and I was thus suspended, hoisted off the deck of the ha-kou-ting; I was in dreadful torture. Then I was sent on board a foreign ship, and asked if I would go; I again refused, and was sent on board the ha-kou-ting again, put to worse torture, being struck and kicked, the thumb, toe, and tail torture repeated. I did not see any use in holding out any longer, so I went on board the foreign ship, and was given two dollars, and engaged to go to a Spanish place for eight years.

No. 56. Ngan-king-ping (taken from an American ship) :—I am 30 years of age, and married. Twenty-nine days ago I was some little distance outside the North Gate of Canton, when I was seized by fourteen men, and dragged away to Tung-poo, then I was taken to Chang-chow, and on board a ha-kou-ting. I was tortured by being kicked and beaten until I consented to be a servant to foreigners and go abroad. Arrived on board the foreign ship, I again refused to enter, and was sent back to the kidnappers, again kicked and beaten until I yielded. I did not receive any money. I was to go to Spanish possessions, and to remain eight years, and to receive eight dollars a-month. I was kindly treated on board the foreign vessel. I did not see any mandarins until Major

Tao came, who told me if I was willing to go he would take me back to Canton; that was four days ago.

No. 57. Lam-a-lay (taken from Oldenburg ship):—I am 25 years of age. I am a vegetable seller at Ung-chu. I there met two men, some twenty-nine days ago, who persuaded me to go to Canton to be a cook with them. I assented to this proposal, and on our way to Canton our destination was changed to Chang-chow. Arrived there, I was put on board a ha-kou-ting, and told I was to be a servant to foreigners, and go abroad. I refused, and was thereupon tied up and flogged. I was placed on my knees, with my hands tied behind my back, and beaten with a stick. I was taken on board a foreign ship. A foreigner asked me if I was willing to go to a Spanish Colony for eight years, at four dollars a-month; and I said no, and was sent away again. But the kidnappers took me back to the same Chinese vessel, and they beat me most unmercifully until I assented, and was taken to the foreign vessel again, where I was treated kindly. I never saw any other mandarins but the Pwanyu and Nan-hai, who came to take us away.

No. 58. Cheng-a-sou (taken from American ship):—I am 22 years of age, and live at Wy-chow. I am coolie, in no particular calling. Twenty-five days ago I met a person in the streets who decoyed me away to Canton to be a soldier. I was quite willing to go; but when I was on my way I was told I was to be a coolie to foreigners to go abroad: I refused. A rope was tied round my waist, and I was lowered into the water until I felt half-drowned. I cried out and begged to be brought on deck, saying, "You must not kill me; I will go." I was taken on board a foreign ship, where I was kindly treated, and was paid a dollar. I was to serve in a Spanish Colony for eight years, and receive four dollars a-month. I did not see any man punished on board. I did not see any mandarin visit the vessel, until the two Magistrates and Major Tao came to us three days ago. There were sixty coolies left on board the vessel. They seemed to be quite willing to remain.

No. 59. Koon-a-choy (taken from Oldenburg ship):—I am 37 years of age; have a wife and two children. I live at We-loo-shi; I left home eighteen days ago. I was carrying charcoal and met six men in the western suburbs who told me they had better work for me, and I was to accompany them to the water-side. I went to the allied landing-place, and when near the water a gag was placed on my mouth, and I was dragged into a boat and taken to Chang-chow, where I was placed on a ha-kou-ting. I was asked if I would go to Spain as a coolie; I said I was the only support to my wife and children, and that it was impossible I could leave them; I was told I must do so, and I said I would rather be killed. The kidnappers, and a lot of Chinese, tied my body down to my legs; placed me sitting on my hands; tied my hands underneath, passed in under and behind my legs; then forced in a bamboo, and two men stamped upon me until the pain was killing me. I yielded, and was taken to the foreign vessel, where I was well treated and paid a dollar. I was not visited by any mandarins until the two magistrates came for me. About sixty coolies were left on board the vessel, who seemed willing to go.

No. 60. Pou-a-si (taken from Oldenburg ship):—I am 34 years of age; married, and have three children. I am a gardener; I live at Chik-lo-chun. Twenty-four days ago I was at work in my garden; four men came up and asked to purchase 100 catties of cocoas. I sold them that quantity. One man said I should be paid when I carried them down to the boat at the river-side. I carried the vegetables down for them; was dragged into the boat, and taken down to Chang-chow. I was told I was to go to a foreign place as a coolie. I refused, appealing to the feeling of my captors. I told them my children were very young and my parents very old, and they all depended on me for support. I was tied up and beaten with a stick; even then I did not assent. I was taken to a foreign ship, and asked by a foreigner if I was willing to go to a Spanish Colony for eight years. I said I was not, and was sent back to the Chinese vessel, when I was beaten even more cruelly than before. I at last told my tormentors I would do as they pleased, and I was sent on board the foreign ship again. I

did not see any mandarin visit the vessel until those came who took forty-seven of us away; fifty-eight were left on board who, I think, were willing to go.

No: 61. Chun-yung-chow (taken from Oldenburg ship):—I am 33 years of age and a coolie. I was in Shi-teen, and not getting good work I thought of going to Sing-koon. In making my way there I was met by a Chinese, who told me he could put me in the way of getting work; and, by long persuasion, enticed me to go with him. Arrived at Chang-chow I was informed I was to be a coolie to foreigners. I refused; and on board a larger vessel I was tied up and beaten with the flat of a sword until I consented. I was taken on board a foreign vessel, and consented to go to Spain for eight years at 8 dollars a month. There were forty-seven coolies brought away by the mandarins and fifty-eight left on board. Some of the fifty-eight were willing to go, but a great many were not asked, as night was coming on, and we went away.

No. 62. Wang-a-chi (taken from Oldenburg ship):—I am 22 years of age, am married, and have a father and mother. I reside at Wy-chow, and am a coolie. Two men met me, and persuaded me to accompany them to Canton; on the way I was taken to Chang-chow, and put into a ha-kou-ting. I was told I was to be a coolie to foreigners, and offered four dollars a month. I refused: I told them my wife was too young to be left, and begged very hard. I was beaten, however, with the flat part of a sword until I consented. I was then taken on board a foreign vessel, and I was asked the same question, and from fear I said I was willing. I received two dollars, which sum was taken from me when I left. No mandarin visited this vessel until the Pwanyu and other magistrates came. There were fifty-eight coolies left on board; some I knew were willing to go abroad, but a good many were not asked. It is ten days since I was taken by the kidnappers.

No. 63. Lam-wi-you (taken from Oldenburg ship):—I am 19 years of age. Thirty days ago I was servant in the Salt Commissioners' yamun at Canton. I was persuaded by some person to go away for a little while. I went and was taken to Chang-chow, and to my surprise I was put on board a ha-kou-ting, and told I was to be a servant to foreigners. I refused, and my hands were consequently tied behind my back. I was flogged until I consented. I was told if I changed my mind when on board the foreign vessel I should be killed I received one dollar, which I returned afterwards on leaving.

No. 64. Wang-a-moay (taken from Oldenburg ship):—I am 30 years of age. I married and am a sailor. I live at Soo-sung. I was at work in my house, and was decoyed away on some pretences until I was put on board a ship. It was a ha-kou-ting at Chang-chow. I was told I was to go and be a coolie. I refused. I was tied up and beaten with a stick. I was then sent into a foreign ship and asked if I was willing. I refused again, and was sent back to the ha-kou-ting. This time I was again beaten and my feet tortured; a lighted joss-stick was applied to my ankle (shows mark of a bad burn) until I could bear the pain no longer; so I went on board the foreign ship again. Fifty-eight coolies were left on board the ship: some were willing, but all were not asked.

No. 65. Kong-a-kwan (taken from Oldenburg ship):—I am 33 years of age. I live at Kung-hok, near Yang-ting. I am a gardener. I was carrying wood six days ago to Canton, and met two men who persuaded me to sell them the wood. I went with them to put the wood into their boats; was seized and taken to Chang-chow, placed on board a ha-kou-ting; was asked to go and be a coolie to foreigners, and I refused. I was tied up and beaten, and cold water was poured upon me until I could not bear it any longer; so I consented. I was taken on board a foreign vessel, where I received two dollars, which I returned when I was released. There were seventy or eighty coolies left on board; some of them were willing to go, but I do not think all were asked.

No. 66. Hong-lam-kwei (taken from Oldenburg ship:)—I am 28 years of age; have a wife and one child. I am a cotton-weaver. Eight days ago at Chung-seang two men came to me and forced me to go with them. One held my throat so that I could not call out; besides it was night-time. I was taken to

Chang-chow, and told I was to go and be a coolie. My hands were tied because I refused, and I was beaten. My hands were tied together, and a wedge was fastened in between them. I was then taken on board the foreign ship, and I again refused; was sent back to the ha-kou-ting, where I was beaten until I consented. I was then sent back to the foreign ship and received a dollar, which I returned on leaving. I was taken away by the magistrates. Forty-seven men were brought away, and fifty-eight left on board.

No. 67. You-fo-kew (taken from Oldenburg ship):—I am 22 years of age. I am a sailor of Wychow. Some men (two) persuaded me to join the vessel, offering higher wages. I went with them, not suspecting evil. I was taken to Chang-chow, and asked to go as a servant to foreigners. I refused. My hands were tied together, fingers and all, and a bamboo was then forced in between the hands, which made me consent. I received two dollars, and returned the same when I left.

No. 68. Tseen-a-koon, native of Sam-sheu, aged 26 (taken from American ship). Was a seller of vegetables at Fatshan; and about a month since was induced by an acquaintance to come to Canton, under promise of getting him employment. They both came down in a passage-boat, and then went on board a sampan, ostensibly to cross over to Honam: the sampan, however, proceeded to the Whampoa anchorage, and he was then asked to engage himself as a coolie in foreign employment, and emigrate; he refused, but was forced by threats on board a coolie-broker's boat. The broker took him on board a foreign ship, and on boarding her he was told by a Chinese that he was about to be led before a mandarin, who would ask him whether or not he were willing to engage himself, and that if he should express his unwillingness he would be sent back to the broker's boat, and there murdered: thus threatened he consented to go when asked by the mandarin; the latter was not in his official dress. He was nearly a month on board, and was treated tolerably well. The vessel was American. There were about 250 coolies on board, all of whom said that they had been kidnapped.

No. 69. Leong-a-tsow, aged 31 (taken from American ship). Was a boatman on the river near Honam. Was told by a fellow boatman, named Chow-a-shing, about three weeks ago, that Major Tao wanted some hands for one of his cruizers at Whampoa, wages four dollars a-month; wished to engage himself on those terms, and went in a boat to Whampoa with Chow, leaving his own boat in charge of his mother. On their arrival a sampan came alongside, into which he was forced, and carried on board a coolie-broker's boat. He was then taken on board a foreign vessel, and asked by a Portuguese if he would engage himself as a coolie; on refusing he was sent back to the broker's boat, where he was beaten, and a drawn sword being placed across his throat, he was terrified into consent. After this he was again taken on board the foreign ship, and brought before a mandarin, who asked him if he was willing to go abroad as a coolie; he replied in the affirmative, and was kept on board until released on the 4th instant. He was treated well, and had enough to eat on board; but just before leaving on the 4th instant, he was struck twice with the fist by a Portuguese, who had heard him say to the Pwan-yu Magistrate that he did not want to go abroad. There were about 200 coolies on board the same vessel with him, a few of whom he heard saying that they were going of their own free will; but the great majority complained that they had been kidnapped.

No. 70. Le-a-tsou, 32 years of age (taken from American ship). Was employed in a barber's shop at Tung-poo, opposite Whampoa. On the 11th ultimo he was crossing the river to Whampoa, when his sampan was stopped midway by a broker's boat, into which he was dragged, and was afterwards beaten and ducked in the river, until forced to consent to go abroad in a foreign ship. On boarding her a Portuguese who could speak Chinese led him before a mandarin, hinting, at the same time, that he had better consent to go, for if he would not he should be sent back to the broker's boat, where he would, doubtless, be again beaten and ducked in the river: he therefore, when asked by the mandarin, said that he was willing to go. When the mandarins boarded the

vessel on the 4th instant, and after he had said that he was unwilling to go abroad, a Portuguese came up to him when their backs were turned, and hit him a couple of times, telling him "to give up the money he had spent upon him, or that he would kill him and throw him into the river." He heard that the vessel was American, and thinks there were about 270 coolies on board; all of them whom he conversed with said that they had either been entrapped on board ship, or brought off by violence.

No. 71. Lum-a-kun, 21 years of age, hawker of eatables (taken from American ship). Lives in the Western suburbs. On the 17th ultimo a friend of his said that he knew of a passage-boat having come from Hwui-chow, on board of which were some salt vegetables for sale; that they were very cheap, and that if he wished to purchase some, he would go with him, and point out the vessel. Deponent consented, and as they were getting into a boat at the wharf, a third party joined them. He then became somewhat suspicious, and seeing that the boat in which he was, was not going in the direction of the passage-boats, he wanted to go back, but the two others forced him down into the bottom of the boat. He was taken to Whampoa, put on board a broker's boat, where he spent the night, and was next day taken on board a foreign vessel, but was sent back when he said that he was unwilling to go abroad. After this the coolie-broker had him beaten and ducked in the river, and he was then taken on board another foreign vessel, where being brought before a mandarin, and asked if he would, he consented through fear; and a Portuguese who could speak Chinese forced him to impress his finger dipped in ink upon a written paper, which he said was his "Agreement," but the terms of which were not read out to him. He was treated well on board.

No. 72. Wan-she-luh, 28 years of age, a native of Tsang-chin (taken from American ship). On the 22nd of December was asked by a friend to go to Canton, where he would obtain employment in a shop. They both proceeded in a passage-boat as far as Whampoa, where he was persuaded to get into a small boat, and was then taken on board a broker's boat, whence they took him on board three foreign ships in succession. Twice he refused to enter into any agreement, and was in consequence beaten on each occasion, and ducked in the river on all. The third time he consented to go in presence of a mandarin and put his mark to an agreement, the terms of which were not made known to him. On the 4th instant, when he was about to be brought away, a Portuguese struck him, saying that he had deceived him by consenting to go in the first instance, and refusing afterwards.

No. 73. Ma-a-kong, 16 years of age (taken from American ship). Lived outside the Little South Gate, and on the 29th of December, was engaged as a servant by a neighbour of his, a woman, who took him in a boat down to Whampoa, where he was put on board a broker's boat, beaten, and taken to a foreign ship. He was then asked by a foreigner how old he was, and then sent down at once into the hold. He was treated well on board.

No. 74. Pang-a-shing, 25 years of age, a small trader in the city of Canton (taken from Oldenburg ship). Was on the 31st December induced to accompany a friend who said that he could procure him six dollars a-month if he would enlist as a brave for the Western River. He agreed, and was taken in a boat to Whampoa, where his companion said that he wanted him to go as a coolie to Ta-luson (Spain). He refused; the other then beat him, and forced him on board a foreign vessel, he does not know under what flag. A Portuguese then asked him was he willing to go abroad, and he, being afraid, consented. Saw no Chinese officers on board the vessel. Was treated pretty well on board.

No. 75. Luy-a-shun, 30 years of age (taken from Oldenburg ship). Lived outside the West Gate. On the 24th November, having nothing particular to do, he was buying some refreshment in the street when two men, who were strangers to him, came up. One of them had a bundle and engaged him to carry it for them to the Commissariat Wharf for 200 cash. He then told him to come on board ship with him and he would pay him the money, but the boat into which he got went straight to Whampoa, where he was taken to a

coolie-broker, who compelled him to consent to go abroad, and left on board a foreign ship, whence he was sent with four others per steamer to Macao. He there said that he had been kidnapped, and refused to sign an agreement which was placed before him. After remaiming for a week there in a barracoon, where there were upwards of 100 coolies, he was sent back to Whampoa, and placed on board a floating depôt. He was there maltreated, and at last consented to go abroad, when he was transferred to a foreign ship, where he remained till released on the 4th instant.

No. 76. Leong-a-tsen, 20 years of age (taken from Oldenburg ship). Lived in the Western Suburbs, a hawker by trade. A friend of his proposed that they should both go and set up business at Whampoa. He agreed; was taken on board a coolie-broker's boat, tied by the tail and thumbs, and beaten for four days till he was forced to consent to go abroad as a coolie, and was then placed on board a foreign ship, where he was fed and not ill-treated. Saw no Chinese officer on board.

No. 77. Chin-a-tak, 28 years of age (taken from Oldenburg ship). Lived at a village on this side of Whampoa, and on the 19th December was returning home from Tsing-poo in a hired boat, when he was seized by the emissaries of a coolie-broker, taken to Whampoa, maltreated for two days, and then taken on board a foreign vessel. Was asked by a Portuguese if he would go abroad, and, being afraid, said that he would. Was treated well on board. Saw no Chinese officer, and does not know to what country the vessel belonged.

No. 78. Chin-yun-hing, 28 years of age, of the Pwan-yu district (taken from Oldenburg ship). Is an agricultural labourer. He lived alone in a little hovel, which was entered on the night of the 1st instant by four men, who carried him off to a broker's boat, where he was forced to consent to go abroad, and then placed on board a foreign vessel. A Portuguese asked him would he go; he agreed. Saw no Chinese officer; was treated pretty well on board.

No. 79. Wang-po-shing, 24 years of age, a native of Hwui-chow (taken from Oldenburg ship). Came to Canton in search of employment, where he met a friend, who said there was an opening for him at Whampoa, where he might earn nearly two dollars a-month. He went there in consequence; was taken to a broker's boat, nearly beaten to death, and forced through fear to consent to go on board when asked by a Portuguese on board the foreign vessel to which this broker took him. He was well treated on board.

No. 80. Nai-too-tsoi, 22 years of age, a native of Tsang-ching (taken from Oldenburg ship). On the 31st December, had been selling some charcoal outside the North Gate, when he was seized and carried off by three strangers, who placed him in a boat and carried him to a coolie-broker's at Whampoa. He was taken to three different foreign vessels, and, refusing to go twice, was, in consequence, beaten twice by the coolie-broker. The third time he consented. It was a Portuguese who asked him. Saw no Chinese officer. Was well treated on board.

No. 81. Tseang-a-yeu, aged 18, native of Ying-tih, by trade a smith (taken from Oldenburg ship). Was told by a friend that there was a quantity of iron to be sold cheap at Ting-kwan. They set out in a boat for that place, and he was seized on the journey, taken to a broker's at Whampoa, was maltreated, and compelled to consent to go abroad as a coolie in a foreign ship. A Portuguese questioned him. Saw no Chinese officer.

No. 82. Tan-a-mow, aged 25, agricultural labourer (taken from Oldenburg ship). On the 27th December went to Fatshan to see his brother, and on the 29th hired a boat to take him back. The boatman, however, took him to Whampoa, and gave him up to a coolie-broker, who forced him, by beating, to consent to emigrate. A Portuguese questioned him on board the foreign vessel. Saw no Chinese officer.

No. 83. Yang-e-kow, aged 27, married, by trade a carpenter, states:—I

was coming to Canton from Fatshan with some clock-stands for sale. At a place called Wong-a-how the boat was attacked by four pirates. I was then taken to Chang-chow, and put on board a foreign vessel. I was questioned by the foreigners on board, whether I was willing to go to the Spanish Colonies for eight years, at the rate of four dollars a month. I told them that I was unwilling to go, when I was handed over again to the pirates. I was then tortured and taken to another foreign vessel. I refused to go on board, and was taken to a third, when, owing to the ill-treatment that I experienced on board the junk, I consented to go on board. I was then sent to Macao. On the day of embarkation I refused to go. I was sent back to the foreign vessel at Chang-chow, and handed over to the pirates, who again ill-treated me, and I consented to go on board the ship. I was well treated on board, till I was released by the Chinese authorities.

No. 84. Loo-a-po, 32 years of age (taken from Oldenburg ship), married, by trade a seller of vegetables, states:—I am a native of Wei-chow. I was asked by a man if I was willling to become a "brave." I consented, and the man took me to Chang-chow. On my arrival there I was taken on board a foreign vessel, and asked if I was willing to go the Spanish Colonies for eight years at four dollars per month. I refused to go, but the men who brought me from Wei-chow threatened to murder me. I consented. I remained on board the foreign vessel till I was released. I was well treated on board.

No. 85. Sam-a-wei, aged 32 (taken from Oldenburg ship), married, by trade a coolie, states:—I am a native of Sanon. I was seized on board a boat on the river by five men, and taken to Chang-chow. I was then taken on board a foreign vessel, and asked if I was willing to go to the Spanish Colonies for eight years at the rate of four dollars per month. I refused to go, when I was handed over to the men who had brought me from Sanon, when I was so ill-treated that I consented to go. I went on board the foreign vessel, where I remained until I was released by the Chinese authorities. I was well treated on board. I did not receive any money from the foreigners.

No. 86. Chew-see-how, aged 31 (taken from Oldenburg ship), married, by trade a blacksmith, states:—I am a native of Yu-tuk. A man came to me, and told me that he had some work for me to do. I then went with him. He took me to Chang-chow, and we went on board a foreign vessel. I was asked whether I was willing to go to the Spanish Colonies for eight years for four dollars a month. I refused to go. I was then put on board a junk, and was so ill-treated on board that I consented to go. I remained on board till released by the Chinese authorities. I was well treated on board. The foreigners on board tried to hide me when the mandarins came on board, but I escaped by calling out. I received no money from the foreigners.

No. 87. Ngai-a-chin, aged 18 (taken from Oldenburg ship), married, by trade a barber, states:—I am a native of Chin-see-eu. A man came to me and asked me to go with him to Canton. I consented to go; but in place of taking me to Canton, I was taken to Chang-chow, and put on board a foreign vessel, and asked if I was willing to go to Macao, and be employed there for eight months at the rate of four dollars per month. I refused to go, when I was handed over to some Chinese in a junk, where I was so ill-treated that I consented to go on board the foreign vessel. I remained on board till I was released by the Chinese authorities. I was well treated on board. I did not receive any money from the foreigners.

No. 88. Cum-a-kan, aged 22 (taken from Oldenburg ship), married, by trade a barber, states:—I am a native of Su-tong. I was going from Pen-quong to Sing-chow: two men who were waiting with me for the passage-boat proposed to me to take a private boat at the rate of six cash a-piece. I consented. I was taken to Chang-chow, and put on board a junk, and asked if I was willing to go on board a foreign vessel and earn four dollars a-month. I refused; when the men in the junk threatened to kill me if I did not consent to go. I was then taken on board the foreign vessel, when I refused to go to the Spanish Colonies. I was handed over to the men in the junk, who tortured me, and I was

again taken on board the foreign vessel. I remained there till I was released by the mandarins. The foreigners tried to hide me when the mandarins came on board, but I escaped by calling out. I was well treated on board, but received no money from the foreigners.

No. 89. Wong-a-kung, aged 25 (taken from Oldenburg ship), married, by trade a basket-maker, states:—I am a native of Heng-neng. I was on my way to Canton to be employed as a basket-maker. At a place called Pok-loco I met a stranger, who told me that I should have to wait some time for the passage-boat, and proposed to me to take a private boat; I consented. The man then took me to Chang-chow, and asked me if I was willing to go on board a foreign vessel. I refused to go; when I was seized by several Chinese who came on board my boat, and I was beaten eight times. I then consented to go on board the foreign vessel. I remained there until released by the Chinese authorities. I was well treated on board, but received no money from the foreigners. I was hired to go to the Spanish Colonies for eight years, at the rate of four dollars a-month.

No. 90. Yung-a-yong, aged 25 (taken from Oldenburg ship), married, by trade a seller of vegetables, states:—I am a native of Wei-chow; I am living at Canton. I met a friend in Treasury-street, who told me that he could get me employment at Honam at the rate of two dollars a-month. I consented to go with him. We hired a boat, but on the way to Honam he told me that I could get four dollars a-month by going on board a foreign vessel at Chang-chow. I refused to go, but he threatened to kill me if I did not go with him. He then took me to Chang-chow, on board a foreign vessel, where I was hired to go to the Spanish Colonies for eight years, at the rate of four dollars a-month. I remained on board until released by the mandarins. I did not receive any money from the foreigners.

No. 91. Ngai-a-mun, aged 30 (taken from Oldenburg ship), dealer in salt fish; he belongs to Tsang-ching district. On the 27th of December three men seized hold of him, robbed him of 6,000 cash he was carrying, dragged him down to the river, and put him into a small boat. They proceeded to Chang-chow, took him on board a hakow-boat, and asked him whether he was willing to go abroad. He said no. They struck him over the head and back with the back of a knife. They again asked him; he again refused. They ducked him, having first made fast his hands behind his back. After the third immersion he consented. He was at once taken on board a foreign ship, in his wet clothes; he there saw a Portuguese, who asked him whether he was willing to go; he replied, yes. The Portuguese asked him how his clothes became so wet. He said the people on board the hakow had beaten and ducked him. He was six days on board, and well treated the whole time.

No. 92. Le-a-pau (taken from Oldenburg ship):—I am a native of Cha-nan-tsun, in Lung district, and am 32 years old; I am a small general dealer. An acquaintance of mine, named Min-a-chiao, met me, and dragged me by force into a little boat, holding a naked sword at my throat. He took me to the hsia-kow boat; I stayed there five days, and there were five or six others, kidnapped men, in the same boat. I was bound fast by the wrists, and threatened with being thrown overboard if I did not consent to go abroad when asked. I was then taken to a foreign ship, where a mandarin asked me if I desired to emigrate; I said no, and I was then brought back to Canton. I was not ill-used on board the foreign ship. I have no desire whatever to go abroad.

No. 93. Leay-a-sang (taken from Oldenburg ship) states:—I am a native of Che-lo village, in the Pwanyu district, and am 32 years of age. I am a petty dealer, and, having sold some articles to a man, was taken by him on board a large ship, where, instead of getting my money, I was knocked into the hold, and hung up by the thumbs for two or three hours; I was then threatened with instant death if I refused to give my consent to going abroad. I was taken on board a foreign ship, where I stayed five weeks; I was very comfortable there. I was released by Chinese mandarins.

No. 94. Hwang-a-te (taken from Oldenburg ship), from the district of Sy-hwei-tsein, states:—I am 20 years old, and make paper for a livelihood. I knew the coolie-broker who enticed me to go with him. He got me to a hsia-kow boat, where I was threatened with death if I refused to consent to be a coolie. I was taken to a foreign ship, and gave the necessary consent.

No. 95. Hwo-a-yeu (taken from American ship), states:—I am 44 years of age, and a native of Nan-hsing-tsun, in Kai-ping district. I gain my living by agriculture, but, the harvests being all finished, I was out of employment. A friend that I met asked me to come to the city, where I could get employment. Assenting, he hired a boat and took me to Chang-chow, where we went aboard a hsia-kow boat. Perceiving it to be a coolie-ship, I wished to get back, but was seized and beaten so severely that I consented to answer in the affirmative any questions put to me on board a foreign ship; and I told the foreigners that I wished to emigrate. I lived on board four weeks. I was well treated, although, among the 200 coolies on board, some were beaten every day on account of expression of unwillingness to go abroad. I was taken away by Chinese officers. The coolies who consented to remain, gave their consent through fear; I don't think a single one wishes, in his heart, to go.

No. 96. Leang-a-ko (taken from Oldenburg ship) states:—I am a native of Ma-keng village, in Tung-kwan district, and am 30 years old. I am whitesmith by trade. I was ordered by a man to make certain articles for him, and on delivery he refused the money, and dragged me on board a hsia-kow boat, where, although I stayed but one night, I was severely beaten all over. They took me next day to a foreign ship; I was asked whether I would go or not by a foreigner, and I, through fear, consented. I was well treated on board, where there were a great many others. I was there a couple of weeks, when I was released by the Chinese authorities.

No. 97. Ho-kwan-shan (taken from Oldenburg ship) states:—I am a native of Fei-lei-ling village, in Chia-yin-chau, and am 35 years old. I am a small dealer. I was induced by a man that I knew, named Ho-li-yang, to accompany him, because he told me that trade was brisk in the provincial city. He got me on board the hsia-kow boat at Chang-chow, where I was severely beaten to induce me to give consent to going abroad. The next day I was taken to a foreign ship, where on being asked the question I consented to go abroad. I was on board ten days. I was well treated, although occasionally threatened, and was liberated by the Chinese authorities.

No. 98. Chang-kwan-shêng (taken from Oldenburg ship) states:—I am a native of Ta-li-teng, in Pwan-yu-hsien district, and am 30 years old. I deal in firewood, and was induced by a certain man, of whose name I am ignorant, to go to the provincial city. He managed to get me on board the hsia-kow boat, at Whampoa, where he said I could sell some firewood, but where was I seized upon and beaten. I was there but one day, when I was taken to a foreign ship; I stayed there three weeks. I was beaten on board by foreigners, when I could not understand their orders, with a rope. I was beaten two or three times. I have never gambled, nor am I acquainted with the coolie-broker. There were more than 200 men in the ship. I don't know whether the rest of the coolies wished to be liberated with me.

No. 99. Pe-yin-hwai (taken from Oldenburg ship) states:—I am a Fa-yuen man, and am 28 years of age. I was induced by a friend, named Lo-tseang, to go with him to sell my goods. I went on board the hsia-kow-ting, where I was seized, strung up by the thumbs, threatened with death, and severely beaten. There were two foreigners on board; they were buying coolies. I was taken on board a foreign ship, where I consented to go abroad, and was liberated by the officers.

No. 100. Chan-sang-kwei (taken from Oldenburg ship) states:—I am from the Su-shan-tsun, in Po-lo-haien, and am 24 years old. I was in a little boat, when run down by a greater, containing five men, who seized me and took me

to a hsia-kow boat, where they beat me and threatened to kill me should I refuse to go abroad. The next day they took me to a foreign ship, where I was very comfortable. I saw no foreigners on board the hsia-kow boat, nor was I ill-used on the foreign vessel. When the mandarins came and asked us who wanted to go abroad, and who not, three men jumped overboard, thinking that they would not be rescued.

No. 101. Tso-a-kwo (taken from American ship) states:—I am 24 years old, and am a blacksmith. I was carrying my goods about in a little boat at Pung-po, when I met a larger boat with five men in it, who seized me and dragged me to a hsia-kow boat, where I was beaten and thrown into the water until almost drowned, when I promised to consent to go abroad. There were two other men on board who were served in the same way. I saw no foreigners on board the hsia-kow boat. I was taken on board a foreign ship, where I was well treated. The foreigners on board could talk the Canton language.

No. 102. Wang-a-hsin (taken from American ship) states:—I am a native of Tsai-hung village, in Kai-ping district, and am 33 years of age. Le-a-chung, a friend of mine, induced me to accompany him in search of work into the country. He took one from the city to Chang-chow, and wanted me to go on board a hsia-kow boat, but I was afraid and refused. I however, at last, went, and on my perceiving that it was a coolie-ship I was seized and gagged. I was afterwards told that should I not consent to go abroad I should certainly be thrown overboard. There were four or five others on board. I was then taken to a foreign ship, where the question was put to me, "Did I consent to go or not?" I replied, "I wish to go." I was very comfortable the four weeks that I was on board. There were more than 200 coolies on board, and some of them were now and then slightly beaten. I was liberated by the Chinese authorities, and have certainly no wish to go abroad.

No. 103. Tan-yün-hsi (taken from American ship) states:—I am a native of Tsien-kung, in the Pwan-yu district, and am 30 years old. I am a dealer in sugar. I was returning home from Kwong-ngan in a little boat, when I met a boat with five men therein, who seized me and my goods, and threatened to cut my throat if I resisted. Gagging me, they forced me on board a hsia-kow-ting, from whence I was taken, on the second day, to a foreign ship. I got nothing to eat on board the first day, nor did I see any other coolies. I was threatened by the coolie-broker that I should be beaten to death did I refuse to consent to go when asked by the foreigners. On this account I consented. There were about 200 coolies on board the foreign ship. Every one was very comfortable on board. I have no wish to emigrate whatever.

No. 104. Ling-a-hsing (taken from American ship):—I am a native of Ngo-fu-kong in Wei-chau-fu, and am 27 years old. A friend, Pang-a-san, induced me to go to Hong Kong to get work. This man is a native of Sung-hwa, in Sing-ngan-hsien. We walked together to Hong Kong, and, on arrival there, I was put into a boat and not permitted to land. On remonstrating with Pang-a-san he told me that it was his intention to take me to Macao for sale as a coolie. No foreigners came on board at Hong Kong, nor do I know whether the other men in the boat were kidnappers. I was taken to Macao in a passage-boat, and was most severely beaten while at Hong Kong on board because I refused to go. Several men remonstrated when I was beaten. I was taken to a barracoon in Macao, where about 60 other kidnapped men were living. I was comfortable there, nor did any one beat or otherwise ill-use me. I was asked whether I consented to go, and positively refused, saying that I had been kidnapped. The foreigners soon afterwards took me to a foreign ship, which set sail and arrived at a place unknown to me. No questions were asked me on board, and I was well treated. There were about 200 other coolies in the ship, but I saw no ill-usage. I was liberated by Chinese officers, and have certainly no wish to go abroad.

No. 105. Tseng-a-tau (taken from American ship), states:—I am 24 years of age; a native of Kan-tau, in Fa-yuen district. A friend, Chung-a-shewui, induced me to accompany him by the promise of work in Canton city, where,

said he, the wages are so good that you will return an independent man in a few months. We went as far as Tung-poo, where I was taken on board a small boat to sleep, and the boat was rowed alongside of a large ship in the river off a place I don't know. I was there told that I was sold as a coolie. Notwithstanding my resistance I was forced on board the large ship, which proved to be a foreigner. I was there told that, unless I gave my consent to questions put to me by the foreigners, I should be thrown overboard. Chinamen told me this. I did as desired. I was beaten once by the foreigners because I slept too much and would take no exercise. Others on the same ship, of about 200 in number, were also beaten now and then. I lived on board three weeks, and was liberated by Chinese officers. I have asserted before, and reiterate now, that I have no wish to go abroad.

No. 106. Chin-shu kâu, 21 years of age (taken from Oldenburg ship). Was a coolie living in the Western suburb. About three weeks ago, being out of employment, he asked an acquaintance of his, named Chin-kum-tae, if he knew of any situation being vacant. The latter said that his master wanted a servant, and asked deponent to accompany him to his house. They got into a boat at the Factory Wharf, and when they were in it Chin-kum-tae said that his master was at present at Whampoa, so that they should have to go there to see him. Deponent suspected nothing till they got alongside of a shrimp-boat. They both went on board and had some food; after which Chin-kum-tae went away, and he has not seen him since. He was asked on board the shrimp-boat to engage himself as a coolie in a foreign ship. Said that he would not; and was then beaten with a rope across the shoulders till he consented. When going to the foreign ship, the coolie-broker told him that if he came back to the shrimp-boat he would be murdered. Accordingly, when he went on board, and was asked by a dark-complexioned foreigner if he was willing to go abroad, he said that he was, and agreed to engage himself for a period of eight years, at four dollars a month, and go to Ta-Luson (Spain or the Spanish Possessions). Does not know the vessel's flag, and was treated well on board.

No. 107. Tsien-kang-kwo, aged 26, of the Nanhai district (taken from Oldenburg ship). Was on board the same foreign ship as last deponent, and engaged on same terms. On the 18th December he went to Fatshan in search of employment, and met there a man named Le-shing-tsae, who said that there was plenty of work at Canton, and asked deponent to go there with him. He consented; was taken to Whampoa, and went on board a shrimp-boat, not knowing that it was a coolie-broker's. Le-shing-tsae then pushed off, and he has not seen him since, but could identify him. They threatened on board the broker's boat to hang him up by the thumbs and cut him with a sword if he would not consent to go with the foreigners; and as he was going to the foreign vessel the broker threatened, if he came back, to cut him up in pieces. He therefore went on board and agreed to go.

No. 14.

Acting Consul Winchester to Mr. Hammond.—(*Received March* 17.)

(Extract.) *Canton, January* 26, 1860.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, copy of my despatch of the 23rd instant to the Honourable Mr. Bruce.

Inclosure in No. 14.

Acting Consul Winchester to Mr. Bruce.

(Extract.) *Canton, January* 23, 1860.

THE Oldenburg Consul, M. Carlowitz, having procured the restitution of the thirty coolies remaining on board the "Fanny Kirchner," and delivered

them up to Laou, the vessel has been cleared. The "Westward Ho," a Peruvian ship, having given up the few coolies which had been placed on board, has also been allowed to leave.

The American ship "Messenger" is still detained, with the approbation of Mr. Ward. The coolies which she got rid of were taken to Macao, and though his Excellency the Governor-General has demanded their return from, and protested against their shipment under the jurisdiction of the Macao Government, they are, I believe, still detained in the barracoons at Macao.

I hear from Mr. Parkes that he has communicated to you the circular letter of the Allied Commanders-in-chief to the Consular Body, together with the voluminous evidence which accompanied it. I hope that at no distant date my colleagues, or the great majority of them, may be induced to return a suitable answer to this important communication.

No. 15.

Lord J. Russell to Mr. Bruce.

Sir, *Foreign Office, March* 26, 1860.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 22nd of January, inclosing a despatch and numerous documents which had been addressed to you by Mr. Parkes on the subject of the enormities practised at Canton and its neighbourhood in connection with coolie emigration.

I entirely agree with you in the sentiments which you express in regard to the criminality of the parties engaged in these transactions; the remissness of the Chinese authorities to carry out the measures of suppression and correction prescribed to them by the Governor-General, and the mischievous effects which the continuance of this system will inevitably have on the intercourse of foreigners with the Chinese authorities and people.

You will acquaint Rear-Admiral Hope and Major-General Van Straubenzee that I have read with the greatest satisfaction the eloquent appeal which, in conjunction with their French colleague M. d'Aboville, they addressed on the 12th of January to the Consuls of foreign Powers at Canton, with the view of obtaining their co-operation in putting down a system which you justly describe as a stigma on the Christian name; and you will assure the Governor-General Laou that the British authorities, acting under instructions from Her Majesty's Government, will always be found ready to co-operate with his Excellency in checking, as far as they have the power of doing so, the atrocious system of kidnapping wherever it may prevail, and in seconding his Excellency's efforts to place under due control the system of emigration, which, if honestly carried out, will afford to many poor Chinese the means of obtaining profitable employment.

I have seen with great satisfaction the testimony which you and Mr. Parkes bear to the conduct of Mr. Mayers, the Student Interpreter, in these matters; and I have to instruct you to convey to that gentleman my entire approval of the manner in which he has acquitted himself under circumstances of no ordinary difficulty and delicacy.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 16.

Acting Consul Winchester to Mr. Hammond.—(Received April 26.)

Sir, *Canton, February* 11, 1860.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, copy of my despatches of the 8th and 11th instant to Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES A. WINCHESTER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 16.

Acting Consul Winchester to Mr. Bruce.

(Extract.) *Canton, February* 8, 1860.

REFERRING to my despatch of the 23rd ultimo, I have the honour to state that, immediately on the return of Senhor Guimarães to Macao, it was at once determined to replace the "Messenger's" coolies on board that vessel. Being at Macao for a few days, I had the honour of a long conversation with his Excellency immediately after this resolution was taken. His Excellency then stated his firm determination not to allow coolies illegally shipped at Whampoa to be brought to Macao, as a place where they could be arbitrarily dealt with, or his territory to become a refuge for men systematically engaged in violating Chinese law.

At the same time, his Excellency stated his intention to close the coolie trade from the Settlement on the 31st of March, and not to allow it to be resumed, except under restrictions which should effectually provide against the proved abuses of the trade. It was especially gratifying to hear from his Excellency's own lips such high-minded and humane sentiments; and since my return to Canton, I am informed that the Governor-General has expressed himself in terms of warm approbation of his friendly and considerate procedure.

Mr. Ward, the American Minister, arrived in Canton in the middle of last week, and consented that the coolies should be brought up from the "Messenger" to one of the magisterial yamuns in the city, and be there examined as to their willingness to proceed to Cuba under the so-called contracts. On the 6th and 7th this was done in the presence of Mr. Consul Perry and Dr. Williams. The result was, that not one of the 430 coolies declared his willingness to proceed in the vessel, and that the whole number have consequently been released.

The British vessel "Thomas Mitchell" has been lying off Shameen for the last fortnight, and will take her emigrants on board in the course of this and the following week.

The French ship "Galilée" fills very slowly.

Señor Castro, a Spaniard interested in the supply of emigrants to the Havana, has fitted up a house behind the Shameen as a depôt, but has not yet received permission to commence proceedings. The contract which he proposed to work on contained a renunciation, on the part of the coolie, of the benefit of certain enactments by the Queen of Spain for the protection of immigrants.

Inclosure 2 in No. 16.

Acting Consul Winchester to Mr. Bruce.

(Extract.) *Canton, February* 11, 1860.

IN my general letter of the 23rd ultimo, I referred in the last paragraph to a circular letter which the Commanders-in-chief had addressed to the Consular corps at this port, requesting them to take into consideration the recent disclosures in respect of kidnapping, with a view to advise the Governor-General as to the measures best calculated to put a stop to the serious iniquities involved in the coolie traffic.

The number and length of the documents by which this letter was accompanied, necessarily occasioned some delay in the preparation of an answer. This, however, has been at last accomplished (I hope) in a spirit suitable to the original communication.

The Dutch, Portuguese, and Hanseatic Consuls are absent from Canton, and Mr. Orne, whom the Commanders-in-chief addressed as Swedish Consul, has not received any appointment.

Inclosure 3 in No. 16.

The Allied Commanders-in-chief to the Consuls at Canton, January 12, 1860.

[See Inclosure 25 in No. 13.]

Inclosure 4 in No. 16.

The Consuls at Canton to the Allied Commanders-in-chief.

Your Excellencies, *Canton, February* 11, 1860.

WE, the Undersigned, members of the Consular Corps accredited to this port, to whom your Excellencies' circular letter dated the 12th January is addressed, penetrated with the gravity of the circumstances and considerations as therein set forth, have, in acknowledging its receipt, to thank your Excellencies for the public opportunity now afforded us of expressing our views and sentiments on this important subject.

It is impossible to peruse the numerous depositions, petitions, and correspondence attached to your communication, or subsequently forwarded to us by the Allied Commissioners, without arriving at a conclusion similar to that entertained by your Excellencies as to the greatness of the evils which the unregulated coolie trade has produced. and the serious peril to which its continuance, especially in event of the removal of the allied garrison, will expose ordinary commerce, and the safety of the resident community at the port.

Looking to the character and circumstances of the native population of the neighbouring districts; the poverty and misery of many of the lower classes; the pressure of the numbers on the supply of food; the liability of the Chinese to deception from their own countrymen; their natural timidity; and the demand for agricultural labour which exists in the West Indies and elsewhere, we can see no remedy for these evils, save the establishment of a "free emigration," under rational and comprehensive rules, easily understood and impartially executed, under the active and constant surveillance of officers appointed by the Chinese Government. We gladly hail the publication of the Rules instituted by the Governor-General, and the experience derivable from the proceedings of the French and British West Indian Emigration Depôts, as solving in the most favourable sense the problem of successfully carrying on such a system of free contract emigration.

The object to which your Excellencies direct our attention will, we think, be advanced by a short recapitulation of the fundamental principles which underlie any conceivable system of legitimate emigration:—

1. That it shall be carried on in localities pointed out by the Chinese Government; that the depôts shall in all cases be under the full control and surveillance of the Chinese authorities, and such officers, European and native, belonging to the Custom-house, or especially designated to this duty, as they may appoint.

2. That the Emigration Depôts shall be open for the free egress and ingress of inquiring coolies during regulated hours; that on first presenting himself at any depôt, the name of the coolie shall, with the date, be registered, and that he shall not be called on to sign any contract for a specified number of days thereafter, during which he shall be perfectly at liberty to leave the depôt.

3. That the contracts shall be submitted to and approved by the Chinese Government; that they shall not in any case extend over a term of more than eight years; that they shall not except the Chinese emigrants from the benefit of laws made by the Sovereigns of the possessions to which they are to proceed, for the protection of immigrants; that the conclusion of the period of the contract shall at once restore to the emigrant the full right to the free disposal of his own labour, any debt which he may have incurred to the indorsee or holder of the original contract remaining as an ordinary civil obligation.

4. That whereas the system of collecting emigrants by payment of head-money is in itself the origin of most of the evils signalized, the same shall be strictly prohibited by the Chinese authorities; and that the salaried servants of the depôts shall, under the protection of the local authorities, be permitted to publish in the villages, and throughout the country, the various prospectuses

which the Emigration Agents may issue; and that the local authorities shall, when necessary, give protection to *bonâ fide* intending emigrants whom it may be attempted to prevent from reaching the depôts.

5. That the terms of each particular scheme of emigration shall be fully published in Chinese, and that each intending or inquiring emigrant, while still unbound, shall have ample facilities, after the registry of his name, for acquainting himself with the terms offered.

6. That particular days shall be appointed in each depôt for the signature of contracts, which shall in no case take place in the absence of the Chinese officers; that the terms of the contract shall then be read over and explained; after which the intending emigrant will be called on to determine definitively as to the signature of the contract.

7. That having once signed the contract and received an advance, it shall be competent to the Foreign Emigration Agent to transfer the labourer, now bound to him, to the ship by which he is to be conveyed to his destination.

8. That in event of emigrants being shipped in a vessel belonging to a country which shall not have enacted definite laws for the conveyance of passengers, it shall be competent to the Chinese authorities to require such ship to conform to the conditions of the British, French, or United States' passenger regulations, at the option of the master.

9. That it shall be competent to the Chinese authorities, with the view of providing for the necessary expense of an efficient control, to charge a moderate fee on each contract which shall be sealed by the emigration officers to be by them appointed, and that copies of all rules which may be issued with respect to emigration shall be communicated by the Chinese Government to the masters of emigrant vessels.

10. That charges of fraud shall be examined into by the Chinese officers, and that wherever the evidence shall support the same, punishment shall be inflicted on the Chinese delinquents.

These provisions seem to us to include the most essential conditions of a *bonâ fide* free emigration. They recognize in the completest manner the right of the Chinese Government to direct and control the foreign emigration establishments, and we conscientiously believe that it is only by a permanent organisation which shall provide for the steady application of such principles that the dangers sure to arise from man-stealing and other crimes can be averted.

The establishment of a proper Chinese Emigration Office, of which the functionaries shall be partly native and partly foreign, acting under the control of the Chinese Custom-house, appears to us most desirable. In constituting the foreign element of such a body, the greatest care should be taken to compose it so as to divest the actual operations from any suspicions of national partialities.

We confidently hope that this recommendation will have the benefit of the powerful influence and support of your Excellencies with the Provincial Government, but even while suggesting the adoption of an organisation of this description as the duty and interest of all the parties concerned, we cannot conceal from ourselves that its operation must be limited and imperfect, unless satisfactory measures are taken in the two foreign ports adjacent to Canton to render emigration practically free.

In the meantime looking to the immediate duty incumbent on us to act in the prevention of the proved evils, we deem it proper to assure your Excellencies that we shall gladly exert the influence of our official positions in preventing the shipment at this port, by vessels under the flags of our respective Governments, of any coolies which shall not have been properly passed under the regulations already promulgated by his Excellency Laou, and that we shall not seek to save, by our official interposition, any ships or individuals from the legal consequences of acts which infringe either public or municipal law.

Looking to the various limits of the powers with which individual Governments have thought proper to invest their Consular officers in this country, it is impossible for us to furnish your Excellencies with any more precise statement of the means at our disposal to carry into effect those objects to which your Excellencies have directed our attention. But we are satisfied that if the present facilities for a *bonâ fide* emigration, under an efficient surveillance, are continued, it will be so much the interest of the parties concerned in emigration to conform

themselves to the known rules as to leave little doubt that the members of the Consular body will, if called on, be able to interpose efficiently in aid of the Chinese authorities to enforce their observance.

We have, &c.

(Signed) NICASIO CANETE Y MORAL, *Consul-General de España en China.*
G. DE TRENQUALYE, *Consul de France.*
OLIVER H. PERRY, *United States' Consul.*
CHARLES A. WINCHESTER, *Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul for Canton.*
W. J. BRYANS, *Acting Consul for Belgium.*
R. CARLOWITZ, *Consul for Prussia and Oldenburgh.*

No. 17.

Mr. Bruce to Lord J. Russell.—(*Received March* 26.)

My Lord, *Shanghae, February* 6, 1860.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a despatch from Mr. Parkes, giving an account of the departure of the "Red Riding Hood" from Canton for British Guiana with 295 emigrants, of whom 11 women and 4 children.

Only two coolies deserted after signing the contract and receiving the advance of 20 dollars.

Including every expense connected with the opening of the depôt, the emigrants will be landed at Demerara at 117 dollars per head, the price allowed by the Colonial Government being 125 dollars.

The French Emigration Agent has found it necessary to increase his advances from 8 to 20 dollars, the sum given by Mr. Austin.

Mr. Austin in the course of two months, has shipped 413 emigrants, and has placed a ship on the berth for the transport of 250 more.

The scheme has been hitherto successful beyond anticipation, and if clandestine emigration can be put down, there is every probability of an extensive system of free emigration being organised in China, which will seek the Colony where the emigrant is most fairly treated, and where the rulers are wise enough to consult its interest by allowing the coolie to avail himself of the most favourable terms offered to him by the labour market.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 17.

Mr. Parkes to Mr. Bruce.

(Extract.) *Canton, January* 27, 1860.

I HAVE the pleasure of informing your Excellency that the question of free emigration from this port has received a very satisfactory solution in the dispatch of the "Red Riding Hood," with 295 souls on board for British Guiana. The exact numbers are:—

Men	280
Women	11
Infants	4
Total	295

And although the families are in small proportion, it is gratifying to those who are acquainted with the difficulties attending female emigration, to see that the first vessel leaving this port under the free emigration system so recently established here should have succeeded in obtaining even this number.

The whole of these emigrants were placed on board in the course of a week, and the care taken in explaining these contracts to them, and making them

well acquainted with the liberal terms under which they were engaged, combined, no doubt, with the good treatment they had received in the Emigration House, was well recompensed by the orderly manner in which they embarked, although the receipt of advances presented the usual strong attraction to desert.

A month previous to the dispatch of the "Red Riding Hood," a draft of 118 men had been furnished from this depôt to one of Mr. Austin's ships at Hong Kong, thus making a total of 413 emigrants that he has shipped from hence within little more than two months from the opening of his establishment. He has already placed another ship on the berth, and as she can only carry 250 adults, it is probable that she will also be dispatched within three weeks from this date. It must be satisfactory to Mr. Austin to find that the outlay he has yet incurred, including every expense attending the opening of the depôt, amounts to not more than 62 dollars per head on the emigrants actually shipped, making with the passage-money, which is 55 dollars, a total disbursement of 117 dollars per head when the emigrants are landed at Demerara. The Colonial Government having sanctioned an outlay of 125 dollars per head, he is already within the limit allowed him; and as the opening of the depôt involved the heaviest portion of his expenses, this rate per head will diminish in proportion to the number of men he continues to ship.

The French Emigration Agent has found it necessary to give the same advances as Mr. Austin, or 20 dollars instead of 8 dollars, which he had at first paid. To this date he has shipped off 54 men, but I have not yet heard of his having engaged a family.

General van Straubenzee has watched the endeavours made to establish a free emigration here, and to check the evils of the illegal coolie traffic with great interest, and he has been pleased, as your Excellency will see by the inclosed letter, to approve of the part I have taken in the promotion of these objects.

Inclosure 2 in No. 17.

Major-General Sir C. T. van Straubenzee to the Allied Commissioners.

Gentlemen, *Head-Quarters, Canton, January* 26, 1860.

I HAVE to thank you for your letter No. 573, containing an account of the manner in which emigration has been carried out in the dispatch for the British West Indian Islands of the first ship with free emigrants from Canton.

I have perused the acccount with much gratification, feeling assured that an emigration conducted on such liberal terms, and in so honest and open a manner, will not only be a benefit to the Chinese who emigrate, but will also eventually amply repay the British Colonies for which embarked.

I take this opportunity of expressing to Mr. Commissioner Parkes my thanks for the very earnest and assiduous manner in which he has laboured to carry through a just system, and thus put a stop to the vile traffic in human beings that has hitherto disgraced this locality.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. T. VAN STRAUBENZEE.

No. 18.

Acting Consul Winchester to Mr. Hammond.—(Received April 13.)

(Extract.) *Canton, February* 22, 1860.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the information of Her Majesty's Secretary of State, copy of my despatch dated this day, to Mr. Bruce, and also translation of a Proclamation recently issued by the Governor-General respecting coolie depôts in the Canton river.

Inclosure 1 in No. 18.

Acting Consul Winchester to Mr. Bruce.

(Extract.) *Canton, February* 22, 1860.

DURING the last fortnight, the ordinary tranquillity has prevailed in the city and neighbourhood. The British ship "Thomas Mitchell" has cleared this this day for British Guiana, with 253 male adult emigrants. The "Norwood," of 849 tons, is also lying off Shameen, for the purpose of shipping Chinese passengers. She will, however, only take a part of her freight here, and will proceed to Hong Kong to complete her lading and clear formally for the West Indies.

The events which recently took place at Whampoa have given a strong impetus to the operations of the Cuban Agents at Macao. I am told that as much as 95 dollars per head is paid to the crimps.

Inclosure 2 in No. 18.

Proclamation.

LAOU, Governor-General of the Two Broad Provinces, &c., makes a further proclamation of strict prohibitions.

With reference to a set of lawless vagabonds in and about the Provincial capital, who kidnapped and beguiled worthy people, and sold them as (if they were) pigs, to be clandestinely sent over the sea, and who were, indeed, deserving of the deepest detestation, I have already issued several proclamations directed against such malpractices, and stating clearly that any people who were willing to go abroad as labourers were at liberty to engage themselves at the Emigration Houses allowed to be established at the Provincial capital, in which the fixed regulations were adhered to; and I at the same time addressed the various Consuls, requesting that they would not permit the chops anchored at Whampoa and other places on the river to receive Chinese people intended for labourers in foreign countries. But as it is verily to be feared that there may still be inveterate offenders, reckless of the laws, who combine (with foreigners), and privately establish places and secret dens on shore for the purchase of (men as if they were) pigs to be clandestinely sold and sent over the sea, so that these great evils may not yet have been put an entire end to, both native and foreign officials cannot but take the strictest steps to put a stop to them.

Wherefore, besides again addressing the various Consuls on the subject, it is fitting that I should also publish strict prohibitions, and this proclamation is, therefore, addressed to people of every description throughout the province for their information. If (a person of) any nation wishes to engage labourers for (foreign service) in the Canton river, he must conduct his business in strict conformity with the Regulations enacted by myself and the English and French Commanders-in-chief, subject to which Regulations he will be permitted to maintain an Emigration House in the city of Canton, or in the eastern, western, or southern suburbs thereof, so long as he conducts his business aright, to the satisfaction of the inspecting officers. With this exception, neither Chinese nor foreigners will be permitted to establish at any place within this river dens for the clandestine collection of coolies. This, for the future, is a fixed rule; and any persons infringing it will not be excused, but will be visited with severe punishment.

All should implicitly obey. Oppose not.

A special Edict.

(February 4, 1860.)

No. 19.

Mr. Bruce to Lord J. Russell.—(Received April 27.)

(Extract.) *Shanghae, February 26, 1860.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of the regulations under which emigration is to be carried on while the allies remain in possession of Canton. They are well calculated to prevent abuses, and to give each emigrant the opportunity of informing himself fully as to his destination, the terms offered for his acceptance, &c., before he signs the formal contract tendered to him, and receives an advance of money on account. They guard, moreover, as fully as possible, against a common trick of poor Chinese, who enter themselves as emigrants with the intention of receiving money and clothes, and of then absconding.

The allied occupation affords great facilities for conducting emigration on fair and humane principles; but it will be found difficult, after its cessation, to insure on the part of native authorities, even if well disposed, an equally efficient superintendence. The foreign agents will again concert measures with the native crimps and kidnappers, and will endeavour, by the united influences of corruption and menace, to revive the clandestine and illegal traffic in coolies which has been so profitable to them. The proceedings taken in the case of the "Messenger" sufficiently show that the Governor-General of Canton will not find among Chinese officials the activity, resolution, and principle required to set at nought the violence and intrigues of the foreigners and the masters of ships interested in the trade. Chinese officers can always be brow-beaten or seduced.

The difficulty, however, is one that must be encountered. The demand of foreign tropical possessions for labour will continue. There is a superabundant population in this country which seeks a vent; and the profits made by transporting Chinese, and selling the contracts, into which by fraud or violence they have been induced to enter, will lead men to carry on this trade as a private speculation, unless the Governments to which these Colonies belong consent to take emigration into their own hands, and thus prevent human beings from being dealt with as articles of trade.

I think, therefore, that the Governments of England, France, and Spain, who are interested in emigration, will do well to take this question into serious consideration, and establish, by common accord, some such principles as the following as the basis of their operations.—

1. That the trade be entirely taken out of the hands of private speculators, and conducted by agents named for that purpose by the respective Governments, who are to conduct it on Government account.

2. That no head-money be paid, under any pretence, to coolie brokers, advances being made to the coolie for himself and family, after he has, under proper superintendence, and with proper explanations, entered deliberately into a contract with the Government Colonial Agent.

3. That this emigration be conducted through authorised Emigration Depôts on shore, open to the joint inspection of Chinese officers and of the foreign authority interested, and under a Code of Regulations similar to those herein inclosed.

4. That the Chinese authorities shall be at liberty to refuse port-clearances to all vessels that ship hired emigrants not obtained in conformity with the regulations; and that the Consuls of the Powers interested receive the most stringent orders to support the Chinese authorities in the measures required to prevent a revival of clandestine emigration.

Economically speaking, the Colonies would gain materially by a system thus conducted. Reliable accounts show that the contracts of coolies shipped by private speculators to the Havana are sold by them at an average price of 400 dollars per head, whereas those shipped by Mr. Austin will be landed at Demerara at an average cost of 117 dollars per man. The cost of the labour is thus raised unnecessarily threefold, to the injury of the proprietor, and to the detriment of the general interests of Cuba. Better terms might be offered to the coolie if the cost of his labour were not enhanced by the large profits of the foreign broker, and the probability would be thereby increased of obtaining a

sufficient and steady supply of emigrants; for I presume that after the revelations of this last year there is no country so insensible to the claims of humanity and justice as not to recognize at once that if emigration is to continue from China, it must be so conducted as to insure each emigrant being a *bonâ fide* volunteer.

Your Lordship is, however, aware that although Laou, the Governor-General of Canton, has recognized emigration, and has willingly lent his aid in regulating it, the Imperial Commissioner Ho has called upon us in the old strain to prohibit it altogether, and I fear that in so doing he represents faithfully the sentiments of the Court of Pekin.

Mr. Ward failed to obtain the interview he requested for the purpose of discussing the subject with him in its general bearings, and I fear an attempt to negotiate will meet with the result which has attended all our efforts to procure the abrogation of such laws of the Empire as experience has shown to be inapplicable to the existing condition of China.

This want of pliability, this obstinate adherence to the letter and form of legislation, in spite of lapse of time and change of circumstances, are dwelt upon in the essay of a learned Chinese as marked characteristics of the present Dynasty, and as among the principal causes of the existing rebellion.

It is, therefore, hardly to be hoped that the Chinese Government will be brought to do more than ignore the existence of emigration in those provinces where poverty and the pressure of a redundant population have accustomed the inhabitants to seek a subsistence in foreign lands; and it is to be feared that the provincial authorities, taking their cue from the capital, will decline interfering even for the purpose of preventing the recurrence of abuses now happily in a great measure checked.

The inaction of the Chinese will, however, increase the responsibility of foreign Governments; a responsibility which the dictates of humanity and of self-interest alike forbid them to elude. For it must be borne in mind that the atrocities connected with private emigration effectually serve the views of the anti-foreign party by exciting the animosity of the Chinese people, and I should not be surprised if on that account they were looked upon with a certain degree of satisfaction by some of the high Chinese functionaries. Wherever they occur, they militate against the security of excursionists into the interior, and even here, where the country people have been always kindly and well-disposed, a marked difference in their attitude and demeanour was perceptible for some time after the events of July last. This feeling has gradually died out; but any attempt to renew emigration through the agency of crimps would be speedily followed by a revival of the animosity then displayed. Indeed, considering that this population is of a purely agricultural character, unmigratory in its habits, and strongly attached to the soil, and that a friendly understanding with the inhabitants of the vast and productive valley of the Yang-tze river is commercially of the highest importance, I should regret seeing it made the theatre of coolie operations under any system, however well organized, of superintendence. The climate and productions of the southern provinces, and the character and roving habits of their inhabitants, point them out, on the other hand, as those most adapted for emigration, and for the cultivation of the products of tropical regions.

I inclose a joint reply, drawn up by the Consular Body, to the letter of the Governor-General, Laou, requesting them to co-operate in the regulation of emigration, which is well worthy of perusal. I can add nothing to its statements and recommendations, and trust that the influence of Her Majesty's Government will be exerted in favour of establishing the system on the footing therein indicated.

Inclosure 1 in No. 19.

Memorandum on the Regulation of Emigration.

IN sanctioning the opening of Emigration Depôts at Canton, it is obvious that these establishments must be placed under efficient control, or abuses

similar to those which have characterized the illegal coolie traffic may be repeated under the shelter of the allied flags.

As it is the acts of foreigners no less than those of Chinese subjects that have to be controlled and regulated, and as all foreign questions occurring in Canton come directly under the cognizance of the allied authorities, it appears clearly the duty of the latter (so long as the present military occupation and mixed government of the city continues) to co-operate actively with the Chinese authorities in concerting and executing all necessary measures for the efficient superintendence of emigration within the military limits.

The performance of these important duties would appear to require the appointment of a special board of officers, to be composed of one French, one English, and one or more Chinese, who should be called "Emigration Inspecting Officers." The object of their superintendence would be to ensure that no emigrant should be engaged without having first acquired a thorough knowledge of the nature and obligations of the contract by which he becomes bound, and that he is not compelled to leave his native land either against his own wish, or the laws or the orders of the local authorities.

The rules to be observed by these officers in carrying out these duties is the point which is now to be determined, and the Commissioners beg to submit for the consideration of the allied Commanders, the following suggestions as to the course it appears expedient to pursue:—

1. That it should be the duty of the said officers to pay daily visits to each Emigration House, for the purpose of mustering all the applicants for emigration that may have been received into the depôt since their last visit. They should note in their own registers the name, age, sex, and all other particulars relative to each applicant, or his or her family, that they may judge necessary to record. They should also see that a copy of the contract under which it is proposed to engage the emigrant is furnished to each applicant, that it be read over to him or her in their presence, and that all the information required by the emigrant is afforded them. They should also warn the emigrants of the time allowed them for the consideration of the contract, which should not be less than four days from the date of registration by the inspecting officers, and they should inform the emigrants as nearly as possible of the day on which they will be called on to agree to, and to sign their contracts and embark. If it be necessary to read over the contract to several emigrants at one time, the number assembled for this purpose should not exceed ten.

2. That in the event of any Emigration Agent having to complain of improper conduct, or of any offence on the part of the inmates of his house, he is at liberty to place and keep the offender in confinement until visited by the inspecting officers, who will direct him as to the course to be pursued, but punishment should only be carried out in the depôt when the Allied Commissioners see fit to sanction the same.

3. That the contracts should be signed in each establishment on days to be named by the inspecting officers, in the presence of the said officers and the Consul of the nation to which the Emigration Agent belongs. Each emigrant, as he is brought up to sign, should be asked by the inspecting officers if he accepts the conditions of his contract, and whether he is willing to sign it; being warned also that, if he sign, he will be called upon to embark the same day. The advances or bounties (?) stipulated for in the contract should be paid the emigrant at the time he signs his contract, and he will not then be allowed to quit the depôt, except with the special consent of the agent who engages him. The inspecting officer should also see that each emigrant receives his copy of the contract, and they should inform him of the importance of the safe keeping of this document. The contracts having been signed, and the advances or bounties (?) paid, the inspecting officers should grant a certificate, in duplicate, specifying the number and the names of the men that have been thus engaged, and authorizing the shipment of the same; one copy to be given to the master of the vessel on board which the emigrants embark, and the other to be forwarded to the Governor-General, for transmission to the Superintendent of Customs.

4. That, upon the demand of the allied and Chinese authorities, founded upon any complaint or charge that they may conjointly deem it necessary to entertain, any Emigration Agent may be called on to surrender any emigrant he may have in his depôt or on board his ship; provided, in the latter case, that the demand be made through the Consul or Consuls of the nation or nations to

which the Emigration Agent and the emigrant-vessel belong. In the event of any emigrant who is thus removed not being returned to the Emigration Agent, the allied and Chinese authorities will see that the latter is repaid any advance of wages that may have been received by the emigrant.

5. That the inspecting officers should see that the Rules established by the allied Commanders on the 4th of November, 1859, for Emigration Houses, as well as all other Rules that may, at any future time, receive their approval, are strictly observed in all the depôts.

6. That the Governor-General should be desired to interdict the establishment of Emigration Depôts at any place not within the limits of the military occupation; and that his Excellency should also be desired to instruct the Superintendent of Customs to take the necessary steps (conformable with Treaty provisions) for seeing that no other emigrants than those duly contracted in the manner aforesaid, are received on board any foreign vessel in this port.

(Signed) H. MARTINEAU DES CHENEZ,
HARRY S. PARKES,
A. C. FISHER,

Allied Commissioners' Yamun, Canton, January 24, 1860. *Allied Commissioners.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 19.

The Consuls at Canton to the Allied Commanders-in-chief, February 11, 1860.

[See Inclosure 4 in No. 16.]

No. 20.

Sir E. Lugard to Mr. Hammond.—(Received May 2.)

Sir, *War Office, May* 2, 1860.

WITH reference to the previous correspondence relative to the emigration of Chinese from Canton, I am directed by the Secretary of State for War to transmit, for the information of Lord John Russell, the accompanying copy of a further despatch from Major-General Sir C. T. van Straubenzee, and its inclosures, on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD LUGARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 20.

Major-General Sir C. T. van Straubenzee to Mr. Sidney Herbert.

Sir, *Hong Kong, March* 14, 1860.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of the reply of the Allied Commanders to the letter from the Consuls at Canton, a copy of which was forwarded in my despatch No. 278.

I beg also to inclose copies of correspondence on the subject of the opening of Emigration Houses in Canton for the export of coolies to Cuba.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. T. VAN STRAUBENZEE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 20.

The Allied Commanders-in-chief to the Consuls at Canton, March 8, 1860.

[See Inclosure 3 in No. 21.]

Inclosure 3 in No. 20.

Mr. Parkes to Major-General Sir C. T. van Straubenzee.

(Extract.) *Allied Commissioners' Yamun, Canton, March* 10, 1860.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Excellency copy of an application from Mr. Thorndike, an American citizen, to establish an Emigration Depôt at Canton, and the reply of the Allied Commissioners of this date.

Mr. Thorndike, we understand, takes the place of Mr. Vargas in the joint agency for the Cuban house of Messrs. Torrices, Ferran and Dupierris, hitherto conducted by the latter at Macao and Whampoa, and by Messrs. Lyall, Still, and Co., at Hong Kong.

Inclosure 4 in No. 20.

Mr. Perry to the Allied Commissioners.

Gentlemen, *Canton, March* 8, 1860.

MR. E. A. THORNDIKE, an American citizen, is desirous of opening an Emigration Establishment at Canton for the collection of emigrants for the Island of Cuba, subject to such Rules and Regulations as have been or may hereafter be made, either by the allied or Chinese authorities.

I inclose a draft of the contract under and by which he proposes to engage such emigrants as may desire to emigrate to Cuba.

I have, therefore, to request that you will grant permission to Mr. Thorndike to open an Emigration Establishment similar to those already opened at Canton.

I have, &c.
(Signed) OLIVER H. PERRY,
United States' Consul.

Inclosure 5 in No. 20.

The Allied Commissioners to Mr. Perry.

Sir, *Allied Commissioners' Yamun, Canton, March* 10, 1860.

WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th instant, communicating to us the application of Mr. Thorndike, an American citizen, to open an Emigration Depôt at Canton for the collection of emigrants for Cuba, under the Regulations now in force, and inclosing copy of the contract under which Mr. Thorndike proposes to engage his emigrants.

We have to inform you, in reply, that, as the conditions of that contract are identical with those of the contracts of Don Fernandez Ignacio de Castro and Messrs. Camino and Co, who have been authorized to open Emigration Depôts in this city, on the grounds and with the reservation already communicated to them, the Allied Commanders sanction the opening of Mr. Thorndike's depôt on the same conditions as the two aforesaid establishments; from which he will learn that his contract may be subject to amendment at any future period, and that the Allied Commanders have still to determine the conditions under which emigration from Canton may be conducted during the south-west monsoon.

We have also to point out that the Chinese translation of Mr. Thorndike's contract is so imperfectly made, and differs so widely in several material points from the foreign version, that it would be impossible for the inspecting officers to conduct the engagement of coolies for Mr. Thorndike until it is amended.

The Allied Commanders have specially instructed us to warn Mr. Thorndike that he, in common with all the persons employed in the various Emigration Depôts, are amenable, while living within the military limits, to martial law; and also, that in the present state of popular feeling on the subject of emigration, excited as it has been by the sad abuses that have attended the coolie traffic as previously conducted at this port and its vicinity, the utmost care is necessary

on the part of the various Emigration Agents to correct existing injurious impressions, and to enable the people to distinguish between an authorized system of free emigration and the man-stealing that during past years has been so extensively practised. The Emigration Agents will, doubtless, see their own interests in adopting this caution, as, should any proceedings connected with their establishments occasion popular tumult or disorder, the Allied Commanders would not hesitate to require the closing of establishments that prove dangerous to the public peace of this city and suburbs.

With reference to Mr. Thorndike's operations in particular, it would be useless to conceal that his connection with the Cuban business formerly conducted by Mr. Vargas is perfectly well known to the Chinese, and more than common pains will be required on his part to counteract the feelings of distrust and dread which his predecessor, in the business of Torrices, Ferran, and Dupierris, have instilled into the minds of the Chinese in this neighbourhood.

We have, &c.

(Signed) H. MARTINEAU DES CHENEZ.
HARRY S. PARKES.

Inclosure 6 in No. 20.

Messrs. Camino & Co. to the Allied Commissioners.

Gentlemen, *Canton, March* 5, 1860.

HAVING been informed, verbally, by the Commissioners that any Society desiring to open an Emigration House in the city of Canton must accept the terms either of the English or of the French Emigration Contracts, we hereby declare our readiness to follow the same terms under which a permission has been given to the Havana house conducted by Mr. P. Castro, which contract is a translation of the French Emigration Contract, and of which we inclose a copy. We will, moreover, take care to have our contract properly translated into Chinese, and make the corrections necessary in case it would be required.

We are, &c.

(Signed) CAMINO & Co.

No. 21.

Mr. Bruce to Lord J. Russell.—(Received May 11.)

My Lord, *Shanghae, March* 21, *1860.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose the reply of the Allied Commanders to the letter of the Consuls on the subject of emigration, contained in my despatch of the 26th of February.

Also a copy of seven additional Rules promulgated for the better management of the emigration depôts.

I forward also extract of a despatch from Vice-Consul Winchester, containing a list of the emigrants shipped by Mr. Austin, and some interesting remarks on the good effects likely to arise from the allotment of part of the coolies' wages to his family in China.

The Governor-General Laou has authorized emigration from Swatow on the same principles, which I hope will put an end to the abuses which have characterized the coolie trade at that port.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 21.

The Allied Commanders-in-chief to the Consuls at Canton.

Gentlemen, *Canton, March* 8, 1860.

WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the reply of the foreign Consular Representatives at this port to the communication of the Allied Commanders of the 12th of January, on the subject of the deplorable abuses that

had attended the coolie traffic as illegally conducted at Whampoa. In addition to this reply, which is dated the 11th of February, and has received, from among the functionaries addressed by us, the signatures of the Consul-General for Spain, and the Consuls for France, Great Britain, the United States, Belgium, Prussia, and Oldenburg, we have since had the pleasure of receiving from the Consuls of the Netherlands and of the Hanse Towns letters of adhesion to the views entertained by nearly the whole of your body. We observe that the Consul of the Netherlands has, moreover, added the satisfactory assurance that he is already instructed by the Netherlands Government "to disallow and prevent any infringement by Netherland subjects of the local regulations laid down by the Chinese Government with reference to emigration."

In thanking you, gentlemen, for the able and courteous notice you have taken of our communication, we beg to assure you that we cordially concur with the opinions you express as to the conditions under which a free contract emigration should be conducted. Those conditions, we may mention, have formed the rules of the French and English depôts at Canton from the date when they were first opened; and you will see, from the inclosed copy of certain additional Regulations instituted by us on the 26th of January, that a complete system of inspection, under responsible allied and Chinese officers, applicable alike to the depôts of all nations that may be opened within our limits, has been provided, and special precautions taken for the timely explanation to the intending emigrant of the terms of his engagement.

It is to be hoped that this system, the practicability and efficiency of which we have succeeded in demonstrating, will continue to be carried out by the Chinese Government at this port when the time shall have arrived for the withdrawal of that interposition and control on our part which, under present circumstances, we are obliged to exercise. The Regulations which have just been established, at our instance, by his Excellency the Governor-General of these Provinces for the regulation of emigration at the port of Swatow, give, indeed, good promise of increased liberality and energy in the policy and action of the Chinese Government, which we earnestly trust may be persevered in; and we are happy to hear from the Governor-General that these Regulations have been fully approved by his Excellency the Minister of the United States, and have also been communicated to the other foreign Representatives with whom the Governor-General is in communication.

That important point of your letter which refers to certain terms which you consider should be specified in the contracts has caused us much anxious deliberation, in consequence of our having received several applications for the establishment of Emigration Depôts at Canton, under contracts the conditions of which we could not approve, nor conscientiously recommend to the Chinese Government. Not wishing ourselves to prescribe terms to the various Emigration Agents, while we at the same time feel it equally impossible to assume the unenviable responsibility of giving our countenance to agreements which we conceive to be unfair to the coolie or repugnant to humanity, we have determined, until the Home Governments shall have had opportunity to consider the question, to allow emigration within the limits of the allied jurisdiction only when conducted under conditions that do not impose upon the coolie heavier obligations, nor confer on him lesser advantages, than those contained in the contracts at present in use at the French and English depôts. We beg to forward to you copies of these contracts, and to mention that, in the instance of a Spanish and a Peruvian house, the French contract has already been accepted, and the same facilities have, accordingly, been secured to these two applicants as are enjoyed by the English and French agents.

We should also state, that we entirely agree that no contract should contain the reproach of excepting the emigrant from the benefit of laws made for his express protection; and we may count, therefore, upon your sharing with us the regret we feel on learning, from an instance lately brought to our notice, that such contracts are, even now, occasionally passed at Macao. It is impossible, gentlemen, that the unlettered and inexperienced coolie, when giving a nominal assent to such a document, can rightly understand its real force or purport, or that he can be possessed of the means of forming a just appreciation of that clause, so common in the contracts that have come before us, in which he is made to declare that, "I agree to the stipulated wages, although I am aware that those earned by the free labourers and the slaves in Cuba are much greater,

as I consider the difference compensated by other advantages which are to be allowed me by my employer, and which appear in the contract;" the said advantages, it should be remembered, being the usual terms of 4 dollars a-month for eight years' unredeemable labour, with lodging, food, and a few articles of clothing.

There is one other point, gentlemen, touched upon in your letter, to which we beg you will permit us to make a passing remark. You most justly point out that all the care taken by us to promote a legal and upright system of emigration at this port must be limited "and imperfect, unless satisfactory measures are taken in the two foreign ports adjacent to Canton to render emigration practically free." As the two foreign ports to which you allude can mean no other than Hong Kong and Macao, we must beg you to disassociate the former Colony from a remark which might be held to imply that that Settlement stands, in any degree, in the way of this freedom of emigration which we all have so much at heart. The provisions of the Act of the British Parliament for the regulation of Chinese passenger ships, the various regulations of the Hong Kong Legislature made in accordance with that Act, and the facts so well known to the whole public, that coolies are never allowed to be collected in that Colony in close barracoons, and that payment of head-money is not there practised, render it superfluous for us to trouble you, gentlemen, with any argument in order to show that no emigration can be conducted under the direction of the Hong Kong Government that does not secure to the coolie efficient protection and the fullest liberty of action.

We have, &c.

(Signed) C. T. VAN STRAUBENZEE,
Commanding Her Britannic Majesty's Troops in China.
D'ABOVILLE,
Commandant Supérieur des Forces Françaises à Canton.

Inclosure 2 in No. 21.

Seven Additional Regulations respecting Emigrant Depôts at Canton.

Canton, January 26, 1860.

IN virtue of the 12th Article of the Rules and Regulations for Emigration Houses in Canton, dated 4th November, 1859, the following additional Rules have been established, and have received the sanction of the Allied Commissioners :—

1. The Emigration Houses will be visited daily by the two Allied Inspecting Officers appointed by the Allied Commanders in conjunction with the Chinese officers appointed by the Chinese authorities.

The Emigration Agent will produce, at each visit, such applicants for emigration as may have presented themselves before these officers, who will note, in their own registers, the name, age, and sex of each applicant, with such other particulars as they may deem necessary. They will also see that each emigrant is provided with a copy of the contract under which it is proposed to engage him, which must be read over to him in their presence, and they will see that all information which may be required is fully afforded to each applicant.

2. In the event of any Emigration Agent having to complain of improper conduct, or of any offence on the part of the inmates of his house, he is at liberty to keep the offender in confinement until visited by the inspecting officers, who will direct him as to the course to be pursued. But punishment can only be carried out in the depôt when the Allied Commissioners see fit to sanction the same.

3. No emigrant shall be called upon to sign his contract until four days shall have elapsed since the date of his registration by the Inspecting Officers.

But should he require additional time for consideration or communicating with his friends, he will be at liberty to delay the completion of his contract until ten days from the date of the above registration.

4. The contract will be signed in each establishment on days to be named by the Inspecting Officers, and in their presence, which day should be notified by the Emigration Agent to the Consul of the nation to which he belongs.

Each emigrant, as he is brought up, will be asked by the Inspecting Officers if he accepts the terms of his contract, and whether he is willing to sign. No contract can be signed at any time by the emigrant, except with his full consent.

The advances stipulated for in the contract shall be paid the emigrant at the time he signs his contract, and he will not then be allowed to quit the depôt except with the special consent of the agent who engages him, and who will be at liberty to cause him to embark on the same day.

5. No money but that paid as an advance on account of future wages is to be offered or given to any applicant for emigration, except in the case of the emigration of families, when a gratuity can be paid, with a view of covering expenses entailed on the removal of the family from their residence, and for the provision of such extras as may be required by them during the voyage.

6. After the contracts have been duly signed, the Emigration Agent will receive from the Emigration Officers a list specifying the number and names of the emigrants engaged with the authority necessary for their embarkation. A duplicate of this list will be forwarded by the officers to the Governor-General for transmission to the Superintendent of Customs, who is charged by the Governor-General to see that no other emigrants than those engaged under these regulations are shipped on board foreign vessels in this port.

7. Should any demand be made by the Allied and Chinese Authorities for the surrender of any emigrant, founded upon any complaint or charge that they may conjointly deem it necessary to entertain, the Emigration Agent is liable to be called upon to surrender any emigrant he may have in his depôt, or on board his ship: provided in the latter case that the demand be made through the Consul or Consuls of the nations to which the Emigration Agent and the emigrant vessel belong.

In the event of any emigrant who is thus removed not being returned to the Emigration Agent, the Allied and Chinese authorities will see that the latter is repaid any advance of wages that may have been received by the emigrant.

(Signed) H. MARTINEAU DES CHENEZ,
HARRY S. PARKES,
A. C. FISHER,
Allied Commissioners.

Inclosure 3 in No. 21.

Acting Consul Winchester to Mr. Bruce.

(Extract.) *Canton, March 7, 1860.*

MONDAY last witnessed the conclusion of the operations of the British West India Emigration Agency in this quarter. I inclose a tabular statement, which Mr. Austin was good enough to furnish me with, of their proceedings here and at Hong Kong. In addition to the 206 embarked at Canton, the "Norwood" will receive at Hong Kong 25 hakka families, &c., so that the whole emigration of this season to Demerara may be stated roundly at 2,000 souls.

The duties of Emigration Agent, which your instructions provisionally imposed upon me, led me frequently to visit the Agency. I could only observe as a spectator the working of an establishment subject from its locality to martial law, but on the whole I was well satisfied. About 2,600 registries of inquirers yielded 870 actual emigrants, a proportion which in itself places the voluntary character of the emigration beyond a doubt. The premises were habitually made use of by the Chinese as a house of refuge; a bitter cold wet day would bring with it a hundred inquirers, who in sunshine quietly disappeared. From this cause, the local agent was frequently disappointed in the clearance of the vessels.

One of the most valuable features in the scheme is the system of allotment, which will do much to reconcile the public opinion to this kind of emigration. Custom in this country gives a parent an interest in the labour of his children, if not in their persons. Fathers and mothers can demand to share the earnings of their sons. The receipt of a part of the advance, and a monthly allowance of one or two dollars, puts the question in a very favourable light, and dissipates

wonderfully the anxieties of parental tenderness: besides, these allotments and regular payment are, in effect, the best kind of advertisement the Emigration House can have.

Mr. Austin has put in motion machinery which, if unimpeded by the occurrence of untoward political events, may, I think, be made to receive a much wider extension in seasons to come. If the practice of family emigration once fairly inspires confidence, its development will become surprisingly easy, and assuredly furnish astonishing results. Everything will depend on the strictest enforcement of the essential conditions of a free emigration.

The French ship the "Galilée" has taken on board two-thirds of her coolies. The operations have been conducted under surveillance as, if not more, severe than that to which the British Agency was subjected. On Monday last, an Emigration House for Havana was at length opened, under the sanction of the military authorities. I understand that the objectionable clauses by which the coolie agreed to submit himself to the discipline in use among the labourers of the country, *i.e.*, slaves, have been expunged.

Inclosure 4 in No. 21.

TABULAR RETURN of Chinese Emigrants despatched to Demerara from the British West Indian Emigration Offices in Hong Kong and Canton, by the undermentioned vessels.

Vessels.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Total.
Whirlwind	302	56	9	4	1	372
Dora	208	115	37	20	11	391
Red Riding Hood ..	300	11	4	..	..	315
Minerva	233	65	8	2	2	310
Thomas Mitchell ..	253	..	..	..	..	253
Norwood	193	12	..	2	2	209
Total	1,489	259	58	28	16	1,850

Canton, March 7, 1860.

(Signed) CHARLES A. WINCHESTER,
Acting Consul.

Inclosure 5 in No. 21.

Proclamation by Governor-General Laou.

(Translation.)

FORMERLY, on account of there being a set of vagabonds in and about the provincial city, who kidnapped worthy people and sold them (as if they were) to be pigs; and there being also foreign chops anchored at Whampoa, and Chinese vagabonds who combined together and clandestinely opened secret depôts on shore at that place for the purchase of kidnapped Chinese, all of which proceedings were in opposition to legal prohibitions; therefore, during the 10th moon of the past year, I dispatched civil and military officers who apprehended eighteen kidnappers, who were executed as a warning for the future. I also issued several proclamations on the subject strictly forbidding the previous practices; at the same time agreeing to permit people of every nation to establish coolie-depôts at Canton under suitable regulations, and there engage coolies to proceed to foreign countries as labourers. All this is on record.

Now the port of Swatow has been opened to foreign commercial intercourse, and being a place of large and shifting population, it is more than likely that there also vagabonds, pretending to collect coolies for foreign countries, may kidnap and sell worthy people; that foreign chops may be anchored there (for the collection of coolies), or illicit depôts be established on shore. We re-

fore it is imperative that most stringent measures should be taken to put a stop to such things.

But amongst the Chinese people there are poor persons without the means of getting a living who may be desirous to go over the sea to earn their bread; and there being a difference between a man personally desirous of going abroad, and one kidnapped and sold by another to be sent away against his will, it is necessary that the measures taken should be discriminative, that whilst preventing abuses the distinction in question shall be provided for.

Wherefore it has been decided to allow people of all countries to establish coolie depôts at Swatow on the plan of those already opened at Canton, and besides directing Mr. Lay, the Foreign Inspector-General of Customs, to co-operate with the Chinese deputed officer at Swatow in carrying out the proposed arrangements, it is fitting that I should issue a proclamation on the subject. Accordingly, this is addressed to every class of people at Chaou-chow, Swatow, &c., for their information.

Hereafter, any person desiring to go abroad and get his living as a labourer in foreign countries must personally proceed to the coolie depôt at Swatow, where, after the foreign Commissioner of Customs and the Chinese deputed officer have, in exact accordance with the twelve Regulations appended hereto, ascertained that the applicant is himself desirous of going abroad, and is not a kidnapped person, they will allow an agreement to be made containing the rate of wages agreed on, the time the coolie is to serve, and the place to which he is to be sent.

Having in this way provided for the gratification of the desires of the destitute for food and employment, any inveterate vagabonds who may continue to combine to establish illicit depôts on shore, or who may in any place kidnap worthy people and sell them, will at once be seized and visited with the severest punishment. It is also forbidden to use chops or receiving-ships anchored in the river for the reception of kidnapped men.

All ought implicitly to obey. Do not oppose.

A special edict.

(March 2, 1860.)

No. 22.

*Lord J. Russell to Earl Cowley.**

My Lord, *Foreign Office, July* 11, 1860.

I TRANSMIT to your Lordship herewith copies of a correspondence relating to the emigration of Chinese coolies, which has been presented to both Houses of Parliament by command of Her Majesty; and I have to desire that you will call the attention of the French Government to these papers, as bearing upon the important question of the suppression of the Slave Trade and the supply of labour to those parts of the world, the climate of which is unsuited to white labour.

Great Britain has, for more than fifty years, made unremitting efforts to put down the Slave Trade, and Her Majesty's Government rejoice to think that those efforts have not been without their fruit.

The number of slaves exported from Africa has fallen from 135,000, the average number exported annually from 1835 to 1840, to 25,000 or 30,000, the number estimated to have been exported during the past year. And in proportion as the Slave Trade has diminished, lawful commerce with Africa has increased, until the value of the exports from the West Coast of Africa now amounts to nearly 3,000,000*l.* sterling annually.

From the Bight of Benin alone, where twenty years ago not a single puncheon of palm-oil was exported, during the past year the exportation of oil was estimated at nearly 17,000 tons, and the value at between 700,000*l.* and 800,000*l.*; and this, it should be stated, owing to the disturbed state of the country caused by slave-hunts, is a diminution as compared with the exports of the two previous years: and from Lagos, which, until the Slave Trade there was destroyed by the operations of the British squadron, was one of the greatest

* Similar despatches were addressed on the same date to Mr. Edwardes, Lord Lyons, and Sir A. Magenis.

slave markets on the West Coast of Africa, the exportation during last year of palm-oil, ivory, and cotton, amounted in value to about 220,000*l.* In short, wherever the Slave Trade has been put down, honest trade has sprung up, and Christianity, and civilization, and peace, have begun to produce their natural effects. On the other hand, where the King of Dahomey and other Chiefs continue to gain an unrighteous profit by selling men, wars and misery, and heathen darkness, prevail.

But it is a lamentable fact that during the last two years the Slave Trade has again increased: at the present moment it is actively carried on for supplying slaves to the Island of Cuba, and recent intelligence which has reached Her Majesty's Government proves that preparations are being made for prosecuting the trade, on a most extensive scale, by means of an Association.

Under these circumstances Her Majesty's Government appeal to the nations of Christendom to endeavour, in obedience to the dictates of humanity and religion, to efface, by a final effort, the stain which the Slave Trade inflicts on the Christian name.

Brazil has set a noble example of perseverance in the suppression of the Slave Trade, once so vigorously carried on to her shores; and what the Brazilian Government, in the face of great difficulties, has successfully accomplished, may be equally accomplished elsewhere.

The Island of Cuba is now almost the only place in the globe by which and for which the Slave Trade is maintained.

Her Majesty's Government have a Treaty with Spain of the year 1835, by which the Spanish Crown undertook to abolish the Slave Trade, and accepted a sum of 400,000*l.* to enable it the more easily to do so.

Her Majesty's Government are well aware that the price of sugar and the demand for labour afford the slave-trader profits which enable him to corrupt the authorities whose duty it is to thwart and defeat his criminal enterprises.

It must be painful to the Spanish Government to find their good name stained, and their efforts to comply with the obligations of Treaties and to put down this wicked traffic, frustrated by worthless and unprincipled men, who speculate in the lives and bodies of human beings.

It appears to Her Majesty's Government that some remedy for this state of things might be found in an improvement of the laws of the United States respecting the equipment of slave-ships, and in the increased employment of cruizers in the waters surrounding Cuba by Spain, Great Britain, and the United States, and in the enactment by Spain of a law enforcing the registration of slaves in Cuba, and inflicting severe penalties upon the proprietors of estates within which newly imported slaves are found.

But no doubt the difficulties of suppressing the Slave Trade arise mainly from the demand which exists in Cuba and similar countries for labourers suited to a hot climate; and if this demand could be lawfully supplied, the incentives to engage in an illegal traffic in African labourers would be greatly diminished, and the price of a slave might be enhanced far beyond that of a free labourer.

This supply, Her Majesty's Government confidently believe, may be obtained from China.

The state of society in that vast Empire, where the population is super-abundant and at the same time civilized, where regular laws can be enforced, and the hiring of labourers for the purposes of emigration may be reduced to method, affords peculiar opportunities for organizing a system of emigration by which the wants of those countries which have heretofore looked to Africa for labourers may be fully supplied.

Great abuses have unfortunately prevailed in the Chinese ports where the emigration of coolies has been carried on.

Men have been kidnapped by unscrupulous agents employed by European contractors to collect coolies; and the scenes of oppression and misery which have taken place in the barracoons where the coolies have been assembled, and on board the ships in which they have been conveyed across the sea, have borne only too close a resemblance to the corresponding circumstances connected with the African Slave Trade.

If such abuses were suffered to continue unchecked, the exasperation created thereby amongst the Chinese population would seriously endanger the safety of the lives and property of the whole European community in China.

But happily it has been proved by recent experience at Canton that Chinese

emigration may, under proper regulations and superintendence, be conducted in such a manner as to prevent the occurrence of the evils complained of.

The Chinese authorities, who had hitherto been most averse to the emigration, have at Canton recognized the advantages which may be derived from it under a proper system; and I have to direct your particular attention to the proclamation of the Governor-General Laou on this subject, which you will find at page 136 of the papers herewith sent.

Moreover, under the regulations which have been introduced by the agent in China of Her Majesty's Government, in conjunction with the Chinese and the allied authorities at Canton, it has been found practicable to induce whole families of Chinese to emigrate. A considerable number of such families have emigrated to Demerara, and there is every reason to hope that with time and care the prejudices which have hitherto prevented Chinese women from emigrating may be entirely overcome.

It is scarcely necessary to say anything as to the efficiency of the Chinese coolies as labourers, as that is admitted by all who have had experience of them; indeed, the impossibility of inducing the Chinese women to emigrate has been the only serious obstacle to Chinese colonization on an extensive scale.

These fair prospects will, however, be marred if the various European and American Governments interested in Chinese emigration do not combine to inforce stringent regulations upon those who are engaged in conducting it; and Her Majesty's Government earnestly hope that the French Government will take the necessary measures for this purpose.

By judiciously promoting the emigrating from China, and at the same time vigorously repressing the infamous traffic in African slaves, the Christian Governments of Europe and America may confer benefits upon a large portion of the human race, the effects of which it would be difficult to exaggerate.

Her Majesty's Government, therefore, propose, with a view to the final extinction of Slave Trade—

1st. A systematic plan of cruizing on the coast of Cuba by the vessels of Great Britain, Spain, and the United States;

2nd. Laws of registration and inspection in the Island of Cuba, by which the employment of slaves imported contrary to law might be detected by Spanish authorities;

3rd. A plan of emigration from China regulated by the agents of European nations in conjunction with the Chinese authorities.

Lastly, I have to call your attention to the following passage in the Message of the President of the United States, of May:—

"It is truly lamentable that Great Britain and the United States should be obliged to expend such a vast amount of blood and treasure for the suppression of the African Slave Trade, and this when the only portions of the civilized world where it is tolerated and encouraged are the Spanish Islands of Cuba and Puerto Rico."

I have to instruct you to communicate to M. Thouvenel copies of this despatch, and of the papers by which it is accompanied.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

CORRESPONDENCE respecting Emigration from Canton.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty. 1860.

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Ms. Rowena T Robinson

on 29 March, 2019